

CLEARSIGN COMBUSTION CORP  
Form 10-Q  
August 14, 2017

**UNITED STATES**

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Washington, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 10-Q**

**(Mark One)**

**QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE  
ACT OF 1934**

**For the quarterly period ended June 30, 2017**

**OR**

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

**For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_**

**Commission File Number 001-35521**

**CLEARSIGN COMBUSTION CORPORATION**

**(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

**WASHINGTON**

**26-2056298**

(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer  
incorporation or organization) Identification No.)

**12870 Interurban Avenue South**

**Seattle, Washington 98168**

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

**(206) 673-4848**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**No change**

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes x No "

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period than the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes x No "

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-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 filer "

Edgar Filing: CLEARSIGN COMBUSTION CORP - Form 10-Q

Non-accelerated filer  Smaller reporting company   
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Emerging growth company

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes   
 No

As of August 14, 2017 the issuer has 15,603,853 shares of common stock, par value \$.0001, issued and outstanding.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION

|                                  |   |           |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------|
| <b>Item 1.</b>                   | <b><u>Condensed Financial Statements</u></b>  | <b>1</b>  |
|                                  | <u>Condensed Balance Sheets as of June 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016 (Unaudited)</u>                           | 2         |
|                                  | <u>Condensed Statements of Operations for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016 (Unaudited)</u> | 3         |
|                                  | <u>Condensed Statement of Stockholders' Equity for the six months ended June 30, 2017 (Unaudited)</u>           | 4         |
|                                  | <u>Condensed Statements of Cash Flows for the six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016 (Unaudited)</u>           | 5         |
|                                  | <u>Notes to Unaudited Condensed Financial Statements</u>  | 6         |
| <b>Item 2.</b>                   | <b><u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u></b>             | <b>17</b> |
| <b>Item 3.</b>                   | <b><u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u></b>  | <b>24</b> |
| <b>Item 4.</b>                   | <b><u>Controls and Procedures</u></b>   | <b>24</b> |
| <b>PART II OTHER INFORMATION</b> |   |           |
| <b>Item 1.</b>                   | <b><u>Legal Proceedings</u></b>   | <b>24</b> |
| <b>Item 1A.</b>                  | <b><u>Risk Factors</u></b>  | <b>24</b> |
| <b>Item 2.</b>                   | <b><u>Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u></b>                                       | <b>25</b> |
| <b>Item 3.</b>                   | <b><u>Defaults Upon Senior Securities</u></b>   | <b>25</b> |
| <b>Item 4.</b>                   | <b><u>Mine Safety Disclosures</u></b>   | <b>25</b> |
| <b>Item 5.</b>                   | <b><u>Other Information</u></b>   | <b>25</b> |
| <b>Item 6.</b>                   | <b><u>Exhibits</u></b>  | <b>26</b> |
|                                  | <b><u>SIGNATURES</u></b>  | <b>27</b> |

**PART I-FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**ITEM 1.**

**CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

1

## ClearSign Combustion Corporation

## Condensed Balance Sheets

(Unaudited)

|  | June 30,<br>2017 | December<br>31,<br>2016 |
|--|------------------|-------------------------|
| <b><u>ASSETS</u></b>   |                  |                         |
| Current Assets:  |                  |                         |
| Cash and cash equivalents  | \$5,460,000      | \$1,259,000             |
| Accounts receivable  | 103,000          | 103,000                 |
| Contract assets  | 84,000           | -                       |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets  | 563,000          | 535,000                 |
| Total current assets   | 6,210,000        | 1,897,000               |
| Fixed assets, net  | 583,000          | 644,000                 |
| Patents and other intangible assets, net   | 1,818,000        | 1,735,000               |
| Other assets   | 10,000           | 10,000                  |
| Total Assets   | \$8,621,000      | \$4,286,000             |
| <b><u>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</u></b>   |                  |                         |
| Current Liabilities:   |                  |                         |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities   | \$644,000        | \$755,000               |
| Current portion of lease liabilities   | 155,000          | 150,000                 |
| Accrued compensation and taxes   | 355,000          | 669,000                 |
| Contract liabilities   | 13,000           | 115,000                 |
| Total current liabilities  | 1,167,000        | 1,689,000               |
| Long Term Liabilities:   |                  |                         |
| Long term lease liabilities  | 275,000          | 353,000                 |
| Total liabilities  | 1,442,000        | 2,042,000               |
| Commitments  |                  |                         |
| Stockholders' Equity:  |                  |                         |
| Preferred stock, \$0.0001 par value, zero shares issued and outstanding  | -                | -                       |
| Common stock, \$0.0001 par value, 15,603,853 and 12,983,938 shares issued and outstanding at June 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, respectively | 2,000            | 1,000                   |
| Additional paid-in capital   | 52,123,000       | 42,574,000              |
| Accumulated deficit  | (44,946,000)     | (40,331,000)            |
| Total stockholders' equity   | 7,179,000        | 2,244,000               |

|  |             |             |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity | \$8,621,000 | \$4,286,000 |
|--|-------------|-------------|

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed financial statements.

ClearSign Combustion Corporation  
Condensed Statements of Operations  
(Unaudited)

|   | For the Three Months Ended |                | For the Six Months Ended |                |
|---|----------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|
|   | June 30, 2017              | 2016           | June 30, 2017            | 2016           |
| Sales   | \$-                        | \$-            | \$360,000                | \$-            |
| Cost of goods sold  | -                          | -              | 251,000                  | -              |
| Gross profit  | -                          | -              | 109,000                  | -              |
| Operating expenses:   |                            |                |                          |                |
| Research and development  | 1,141,000                  | 1,216,000      | 2,315,000                | 2,541,000      |
| General and administrative  | 1,110,000                  | 1,226,000      | 2,438,000                | 2,502,000      |
| Total operating expenses  | 2,251,000                  | 2,442,000      | 4,753,000                | 5,043,000      |
| Loss from operations  | (2,251,000 )               | (2,442,000 )   | (4,644,000 )             | (5,043,000 )   |
| Other income:   |                            |                |                          |                |
| Interest income   | 15,000                     | 11,000         | 29,000                   | 23,000         |
| Net Loss  | \$(2,236,000 )             | \$(2,431,000 ) | \$(4,615,000 )           | \$(5,020,000 ) |
| Net Loss per share - basic and fully diluted                            | \$(0.14 )                  | \$(0.19 )      | \$(0.30 )                | \$(0.39 )      |
| Weighted average number of shares outstanding - basic and fully diluted | 15,601,380                 | 12,917,410     | 15,234,010               | 12,893,251     |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed financial statements.



ClearSign Combustion Corporation

Condensed Statement of Stockholders' Equity

(Unaudited)

For the Six Months Ended June 30, 2017

|   | Common Stock |          | Additional      | Accumulated    | Total                |
|---|--------------|----------|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|
|   | Shares       | Amount   | Paid-In Capital | Deficit        | Stockholders' Equity |
| Balances at December 31, 2016                                       | 12,983,938   | \$ 1,000 | \$ 42,574,000   | \$(40,331,000) | \$ 2,244,000         |
| Shares issued in rights offering (\$3.03 per share)                 | 2,395,471    | 1,000    | 7,257,000       | -              | 7,258,000            |
| Warrants issued in rights offering (\$0.97 per warrant)             | -            | -        | 2,324,000       | -              | 2,324,000            |
| Issuance costs of rights offering                                   | -            | -        | (915,000 )      | -              | (915,000 )           |
| Shares issued in payment of accrued compensation (\$3.60 per share) | 136,110      | -        | 490,000         | -              | 490,000              |
| Shares issued for services (\$4.85 per share)                       | 5,000        | -        | 24,000          | -              | 24,000               |
| Shares issued for 2017 board services (\$3.60 per share)            | 83,334       | -        | -               | -              | -                    |
| Share based compensation  | -            | -        | 369,000         | -              | 369,000              |
| Net loss  | -            | -        | -               | (4,615,000 )   | (4,615,000 )         |
| Balances at June 30, 2017   | 15,603,853   | \$ 2,000 | \$ 52,123,000   | \$(44,946,000) | \$ 7,179,000         |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed financial statements.

## ClearSign Combustion Corporation

## Condensed Statements of Cash Flows

(Unaudited)

|  | For the Six Months Ended June 30, |                 |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
|  | 2017                              | 2016            |
| Cash flows from operating activities:  |                                   |                 |
| Net loss   | \$ (4,615,000 )                   | \$ (5,020,000 ) |
| Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:                  |                                   |                 |
| Common stock issued for services   | 174,000                           | 95,000          |
| Share based payments   | 219,000                           | 330,000         |
| Depreciation and amortization  | 135,000                           | 90,000          |
| Amortization of right of use asset   | 79,000                            | 70,000          |
| Payments of lease liabilities  | (73,000 )                         | (70,000 )       |
| Abandonment and impairment of capitalized patents pending                                    | -                                 | 232,000         |
| Other  | -                                 | (9,000 )        |
| Change in operating assets and liabilities:  |                                   |                 |
| Contract assets  | (84,000 )                         |                 |
| Prepaid expenses and other costs   | (28,000 )                         | (332,000 )      |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities   | (111,000 )                        | 103,000         |
| Accrued compensation and taxes   | 176,000                           | (390,000 )      |
| Contract liabilities   | (102,000 )                        | -               |
| Net cash used in operating activities  | (4,230,000 )                      | (4,901,000 )    |
| Cash flows from investing activities:  |                                   |                 |
| Acquisition of fixed assets  | (57,000 )                         | (60,000 )       |
| Disbursements for patents and other intangible assets  | (179,000 )                        | (651,000 )      |
| Net cash used in investing activities  | (236,000 )                        | (711,000 )      |
| Cash flows from financing activities:  |                                   |                 |
| Proceeds from issuance of units of common stock and warrants for cash, net of offering costs | 8,667,000                         | -               |
| Net cash provided by financing activities  | 8,667,000                         | -               |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents   | 4,201,000                         | (5,612,000 )    |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period   | 1,259,000                         | 10,985,000      |
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of period   | \$ 5,460,000                      | \$ 5,373,000    |

Supplemental disclosure of non-cash operating activities:

During the six months ended June 30, 2017, the Company issued 136,110 shares of common stock to its officers in satisfaction of \$490,000 of accrued compensation at December 31, 2016.

During the six months ended June 30, 2016, the Company issued 60,883 shares of common stock through net settlement cashless exercise of warrants to purchase 118,959 shares at \$2.20 per share when the closing prices on the date of exercises were a weighted average of \$4.51 per share.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed financial statements.

## ClearSign Combustion Corporation

### Notes to Unaudited Condensed Financial Statements

#### Note 1 – Organization and Description of Business

ClearSign Combustion Corporation (ClearSign or the Company) designs and is developing technologies for the purpose of improving key performance characteristics of combustion systems, including emission and operational performance, energy efficiency and overall cost-effectiveness. The Company's primary technology is its Duplex™ technology, which achieves very low emissions without the need of external flue gas recirculation, selective catalytic reduction, or higher excess air operation. Its other technology, Electrodynamic Combustion Control™ or ECC™, introduces a computer-controlled electric field into the combustion region which may better control gas-phase chemical reactions and improve system performance and cost-effectiveness. The Company is headquartered in Seattle, Washington and was incorporated in the state of Washington in 2008.

#### Going Concern

The Company's financial statements have been presented on the basis that it is a going concern, which contemplates the realization of assets and satisfaction of liabilities in the normal course of business. The Company's Duplex technology is currently in various states of commercial application regarding its four target markets and has generated nominal revenues from operations to date. Results are encouraging but we continue to further refine and expand our Duplex technology range. In order to generate meaningful revenues, one of the technologies must be fully developed, gain market recognition and acceptance, and develop a critical level of successful sales and product installations.

The Company has incurred losses since its inception totaling \$44,946,000 and expects to experience operating losses and negative cash flow for the foreseeable future. As of June 30, 2017, the Company had cash and cash equivalents totaling \$5,460,000 available to fund the Company's ongoing business activities through the end of the first quarter of 2018. In order to continue business operations beyond that point, the Company currently anticipates that it will need to raise additional capital. The Company has historically financed its operations primarily through issuances of equity securities, and until the growth of revenue streams increases to a level that covers operating expenses it is the Company's plan to continue to fund operations in this manner.

Management believes that the successful growth and operation of the Company's business is dependent upon its ability to obtain adequate sources of funding through co-development agreements, strategic partnering agreements, or equity or debt financing to adequately support research and development efforts, protect intellectual property, form

relationships with strategic partners, and provide for working capital and general corporate purposes. Management has made estimates of future results of operations, using a wide range of assumptions regarding the level of revenue generated, operating expenses incurred, and future cash flows from financing activities and is working to execute these plans. There can be no assurance that the Company will be successful in achieving its long-term plans, or that such plans, if consummated, will enable the Company to obtain profitable operations or continue in the long-term as a going concern.

## **Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

### Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited condensed financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission for Form 10-Q. Accordingly, certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations. The condensed balance sheet at December 31, 2016 has been derived from the Company's audited financial statements.

In the opinion of management, these financial statements reflect all normal recurring and other adjustments necessary for a fair presentation. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016. Operating results for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of operating results for an entire fiscal year or any other future periods.

### 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 certain estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of sales and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### Revenue Recognition, Cost of Sales and Change in Accounting Principle

In September 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2014-09 (ASU No. 2014-09) regarding revenue recognition. The new standard provides authoritative guidance clarifying the principles for recognizing revenue and developing a common revenue standard for U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. The core principle of the guidance is that an entity should recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods and services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in the exchange for those goods or services. Additionally, the guidance requires improved disclosure to help users of financial statements better understand the nature, amount, timing, and uncertainty of revenue that is recognized. It is effective January 1, 2018 and early adoption is permitted. Management has elected early adoption of this standard to minimize the eventual cost of implementation.

The Company previously accounted for revenues from design and installation of its products on the completed contract method. Revenues from contracts and related costs of goods sold were recognized once the contract was completed or substantially completed. Contract costs included all direct material and labor costs and those indirect costs related to contract performance, such as indirect labor, supplies, and depreciation costs. Provisions for estimated losses on uncompleted contracts were made in the period in which such losses were determined.

The Company retroactively adopted ASU No. 2014-09 effective January 1, 2017. The Company reviewed each contract to identify contract rights, performance obligations, and transaction prices, including the allocation of prices to separate performance obligations. Revenues and costs of sales are recognized once the goods or services are delivered to the customer's control and performance obligations are satisfied. Typically, the Company's customer contracts include performance obligations related to emission levels or other metrics that are measured at project completion. Management analyzed prior year revenue recognition made under the completed contract method and determined that no changes in the previously reported financial statements were required. Management elected to not apply the practical expedients in the adoption of ASU No. 2014-09.

The Company's contracts with customers have performance obligations regarding air emissions and operational performance that are satisfied upon completion of service. Since this is the singular performance obligation and cannot be achieved until the air emissions and operational performance have been successfully tested, revenue related to the contracts is recognized upon project completion.

The Company's contracts generally include progress payments from the customer upon completion of defined milestones. As these payments are received they are offset against accumulated project costs and recorded as either Contract assets or Contract liabilities. Upon completion of the performance obligations and acceptance by the customer the projects can be recorded as revenue. The Company did not recognize any revenue from contracts during the quarter ending June 30, 2017.

The Company's contracts with customers contain no variable considerations or incentives/discounts that would cause revenue to be allocated or adjusted over time. Therefore, no separate methods of evaluating the contracts other than consideration of the price at achievement of the performance objectives was used in satisfying the review requirements of ASU No. 2014-09.

#### Product Warranties

The Company warrants all installed products against defects in materials and workmanship for a period specified in each contract by replacing failed parts. Accruals for product warranties are based on historical warranty experience and current product performance trends, and are recorded at the time revenue is recognized as a component of cost of sales. The warranty liabilities are reduced by material and labor costs used to replace parts over the warranty period in the periods in which the costs are incurred. The Company periodically assesses the adequacy of its recorded warranty liabilities and adjusts the amounts as necessary, and such adjustments could be material in the future if estimates differ significantly from actual warranty expense. The warranty liabilities are included in accrued liabilities in the balance sheets.

### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Highly liquid investments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less are considered cash equivalents. Cash is maintained with a commercial bank where accounts are generally guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation up to \$250,000. The Company's deposits may at times exceed this limit. The Company has not experienced losses in such accounts and believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risk on cash and cash equivalents.

### Accounts Receivable and Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

Accounts receivable are recorded at the invoiced amount. An allowance for doubtful accounts is established, as necessary, based on past experience and other factors which, in management's judgment, deserve current recognition in estimating bad debts. The determination of the collectability of amounts due from customer accounts requires the Company to make judgments regarding future events and trends. Allowances for doubtful accounts are determined based on assessing the Company's portfolio on an individual customer and on an overall basis. This process consists of a review of historical collection experience, current aging status of the customer accounts, and the financial condition of the Company's customers. Based on a review of these factors, the Company may establish or adjust the allowance for specific customers and the accounts receivable portfolio as a whole.

### Fixed Assets and Change in Accounting Principle for Leases

Fixed assets are recorded at cost. As disclosed in Note 3, in 2017 the Company retroactively adopted Accounting Standards Update No. 2016-02 (ASU No. 2016-02) regarding leases. For those leases with a term greater than one year, the Company recognizes on the balance sheet at the time of lease inception or modification a right-of-use asset and a lease liability, initially measured at the present value of the lease payments. Lease costs are recognized in the income statement over the lease term on a straight-line basis. Operating leases with a term of 1 year or less (short term leases) are recognized on a straight line basis over the term. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the life of the lease or their useful life, whichever is shorter. All other fixed assets are depreciated over two to four years. Maintenance and repairs are expensed as incurred.

### Patents and Trademarks



Patents and trademarks are recorded at cost. Amortization is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets once they are awarded.

#### Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

The Company tests long-lived assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable through the estimated undiscounted cash flows expected to result from the use and eventual disposition of the assets. In that event, a loss is recognized based on the amount by which the carrying amount exceeds the fair value of the long-lived assets. Fair value is determined based on the present value of estimated expected cash flows using a discount rate commensurate with the risks involved, quoted market prices, or appraised values depending upon the nature of the assets. Loss on long-lived assets to be disposed of is determined in a similar manner, except that fair values are reduced for the cost of disposal.

### Fair Value of Financial Instruments

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. Assets and liabilities measured at fair value are categorized based on whether or not the inputs are observable in the market and the degree that the inputs are observable. The categorization of financial assets and liabilities within the valuation hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The three levels of inputs used to establish fair value are the following:

Level 1 – Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities,

Level 2 – Inputs other than Level 1 that are observable, either directly or indirectly, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities, quoted prices in markets that are not active, or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities; and

Level 3 – Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities.

The Company's financial instruments primarily consist of cash and cash equivalents, accounts payable and accrued expenses. As of the balance sheet dates, the estimated fair values of the financial instruments were not materially different from their carrying values as presented on the balance sheets. This is primarily attributable to the short term maturities of these instruments.

In adopting ASU 2016-02, the Company recorded lease liabilities for the estimated present value of the lease payments under the lease agreements. The Company determined the interest rate based on an estimated incremental borrowing rate. The lease liabilities are classified within Level 3. See Note 3 regarding the adoption of ASU 2016-02.

The Company did not identify any other non-recurring assets and liabilities that are required to be presented in the balance sheets at fair value.

### Research and Development

The cost of research and development is expensed as incurred. Research and development costs consist of salaries, benefits, share based compensation, consulting fees, rent, utilities, depreciation, and consumables.

Income Taxes

The Company accounts for income taxes using an asset and liability approach which allows for the recognition and measurement of deferred tax assets based upon the likelihood of realization of tax benefits in future years. Under the asset and liability approach, deferred taxes are provided for the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes. A valuation allowance is provided for deferred tax assets if it is more likely than not these items will either expire before the Company is able to realize their benefits, or that future deductibility is uncertain. Tax benefits from an uncertain tax position are recognized only if it is more likely than not that the tax position will be sustained on examination by the taxing authorities based on the technical merits of the position. The tax benefits recognized in the financial statements from such a position are measured based on the largest benefit that has a greater than 50 percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate resolution.

Stock-Based Compensation

The costs of all employee stock options, as well as other equity-based compensation arrangements, are reflected in the financial statements based on the estimated fair value of the awards on the grant date. That cost is recognized over the period during which an employee is required to provide service in exchange for the award. Stock compensation for stock granted to non-employees is determined as the fair value of the consideration received or the fair value of equity instruments issued, whichever is more reliably measured.

Net Loss per Common Share

Basic loss per share is computed by dividing loss available to common stockholders by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding. Diluted loss per share is computed similar to basic loss per share except that the denominator is increased to include additional common shares available upon exercise of stock options and warrants using the treasury stock method, except for periods for which no common share equivalents are included because their effect would be anti-dilutive. At June 30, 2017 and 2016, potentially dilutive shares outstanding amounted to 3,475,994 and 1,333,363, respectively.

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

Management does not believe that any recently issued, but not yet effective, authoritative guidance, if currently adopted, would have a material impact on the Company's financial statement presentation or disclosures.

Emerging Growth Company

The Company is an emerging growth company as defined under the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act of 2012 (JOBS Act). An emerging growth company may delay the adoption of certain accounting standards until those standards would otherwise apply to private companies. The Company will remain an emerging growth company until December 31, 2017, although it will lose that status sooner if its revenues exceed \$1 billion, if it issues more than \$1 billion in non-convertible debt in a three-year period, or if the market value of its common stock that is held by non-affiliates exceeds \$700 million as of any June 30. At June 30, 2017, the market value of the Company's common stock held by non-affiliates totaled \$57 million.

**Note 3 – Fixed Assets**

Fixed assets are summarized as follows:

|  | June 30, | December    |
|--|----------|-------------|
|  | 2017     | 31,<br>2016 |

Edgar Filing: CLEARSIGN COMBUSTION CORP - Form 10-Q

|   | (unaudited)  |           |
|---|--------------|-----------|
| Machinery and equipment                   | \$759,000    | \$662,000 |
| Office furniture and equipment            | 151,000      | 141,000   |
| Leasehold improvements                    | 145,000      | 134,000   |
| Right of use asset-operating leases       | 518,000      | 518,000   |
| Accumulated depreciation and amortization | (1,013,000 ) | (894,000) |
|   | 560,000      | 561,000   |
| Construction in progress                  | 23,000       | 83,000    |
|   | \$583,000    | \$644,000 |

In February 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued ASU No. 2016-02 regarding leases for the purpose of providing more comprehensive and standardized presentation of an entity's cost of property essential to its operations and its related funding. The new standard requires lessee recognition on the balance sheet of a right-of-use asset and a lease liability, initially measured at the present value of the lease payments. It further requires recognition in the income statement of a single lease cost, calculated so that the cost of the lease is allocated over the lease term on a generally straight-line basis. Finally, it requires classification of all cash payments within operating activities in the statements of cash flows. It is effective for fiscal years commencing after December 15, 2018 and early adoption is permitted. Management has elected early adoption of this standard to minimize the eventual cost of implementation.

The Company has a triple net operating lease for office and laboratory space in Seattle, Washington through March 2020. This lease was modified in November 2016 to extend its term from February 2017 to March 2020. Rent escalated annually by 3% through February 2017 and remains at a constant rate thereafter of \$12,000 per month plus triple net operating costs. The Company also has a triple net operating lease for office space in Tulsa, Oklahoma with a term that began in September 2016 and will expire in August 2019 with monthly rent of \$2,000 per month plus triple net operating costs. Both leases include lessee renewal options for three years at the then prevailing market rate.

With the retroactive adoption of ASU No. 2016-02, the new lease standard was applied to the Tulsa lease in September 2016, the commencement of the lease term, and to the Seattle lease in November 2016, the time of the lease modification. A leasehold interest and corresponding lease liability was recognized related to the Tulsa lease and the Seattle lease retroactively in 2016 in the amounts of \$71,000 and \$447,000, respectively. These reflect the lease commitments over the lease term discounted at the Company's estimated incremental borrowing rate of 5% per annum. The lessee renewal options were not included in the lease term as they were not considered to be reasonably probable of exercise nor measurable. In 2016, accumulated amortization of these assets amounted to \$19,000 and principal payments of the lease liabilities amounted to \$17,000. There was no meaningful effect on the 2016 results of operations or the December 31, 2016 accumulated deficit. Management elected to apply the practical expedients in the adoption of ASU No. 2016-02 and to not apply the standard to short term leases.

Lease costs for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016 and other quantitative disclosures are as follows:

|                       | For the three<br>months ended<br>June 30, |          | For the six months<br>ended June 30, |          |
|-----------------------|---|----------|--------------------------------------|----------|
|                       | 2017                                      | 2016     | 2017                                 | 2016     |
| Lease cost:           |   |          |                                      |          |
| Operating lease cost  | \$60,000                                  | \$40,000 | \$115,000                            | \$80,000 |
| Short-term lease cost | -   | 6,000    | -                                    | 17,000   |
| Total lease cost      | \$60,000                                  | \$46,000 | \$115,000                            | \$97,000 |

Other information:

Cash paid for amounts included in the measurement of lease liabilities:

Operating cash flows from operating leases \$86,000

Right-of-use assets obtained in exchange for new operating lease liabilities

For operating lease:

Weighted average remaining lease term (in years) 2.68

Weighted average discount rate 5.00 %

Minimum future payments under the Company's leases at June 30, 2017 and their application to the corresponding lease liabilities are as follows:

Discounted Payments due

|       | lease liability | under lease |
|-------|-----------------|-------------|
|       | payments        | agreements  |
| 2017  | \$ 76,000       | \$ 86,000   |
| 2018  | 159,000         | 173,000     |
| 2019  | 158,000         | 164,000     |
| 2020  | 37,000          | 37,000      |
| Total | \$ 430,000      | \$ 460,000  |

**Note 4 – Patents and Other Intangible Assets**

Patents and other intangible assets are summarized as follows:

|                          | June 30,<br>2017<br>(unaudited) | December 31,<br>2016 |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| Patents                  |                                 |                      |
| Patents pending          | \$ 1,153,000                    | \$ 1,040,000         |
| Issued patents           | 806,000                         | 747,000              |
|                          | 1,959,000                       | 1,787,000            |
| Trademarks               |                                 |                      |
| Trademarks pending       | 30,000                          | 23,000               |
| Registered trademarks    | 23,000                          | 23,000               |
|                          | 53,000                          | 46,000               |
| Other                    | 8,000                           | 8,000                |
|                          | 2,020,000                       | 1,841,000            |
| Accumulated amortization | (202,000 )                      | (106,000 )           |
|                          | \$ 1,818,000                    | \$ 1,735,000         |

During the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016, the Company recorded impairment losses of \$0, \$0, \$167,000, and \$232,000 respectively, of capitalized patents pending.

Future amortization expense associated with issued patents and registered trademarks as of June 30, 2017 is estimated as follows:

|            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| 2017       | \$98,000  |
| 2018       | 194,000   |
| 2019       | 173,000   |
| 2020       | 98,000    |
| 2021       | 36,000    |
| Thereafter | 28,000    |
|            | \$627,000 |



## **Note 5 – Sales, Contract Assets and Contract Liabilities**

In the quarter ended September 30, 2016, the Company entered into a multi-flare contract with a third party contractor to supply its Duplex technology to a major California oil producer to retrofit its enclosed wellhead ground flares. This contract is valued at approximately \$900,000 and includes certain performance obligations related to emission levels. As such, each flare retrofit is considered a separate transaction where revenues are recognized upon delivery of the unit and satisfaction of the performance obligation. In the prior quarter, revenue totaling \$360,000 was recognized with the completion of the contractual obligations. The remaining units with a contract value totaling \$540,000 are expected to be completed during the course of 2017 depending on the oil producer customer's schedule. The Company also has contracts with two oil producing companies for the installation of its Duplex technology with a total value of approximately \$280,000. At June 30, 2017, the Company had contract assets of \$84,000 and contract liabilities of \$13,000.

## **Note 6 – Stockholders' Equity**

### Common Stock and Preferred Stock

The Company is authorized to issue 62,500,000 shares of common stock and 2,000,000 shares of preferred stock. Preferences, limitations, voting powers and relative rights of any preferred stock to be issued may be determined by the Company's Board of Directors. The Company has not issued any shares of preferred stock.

In January 2017, the Company completed a rights offering and public offering of units comprised of common stock and warrants at \$4.00 per unit (the Rights Offering) whereby 2,395,471 shares of common stock and warrants for the purchase of 2,395,471 shares of common stock were issued. The warrants allow each holder to purchase one share of common stock at an exercise price of \$4.00 per share, are non-callable, expire on January 25, 2019, and are publicly traded on the NASDAQ Capital Market under the symbol "CLIRW". Gross proceeds from the Rights Offering totaled \$9.6 million and net cash proceeds approximated \$8.7 million. Expenses of the Rights Offering approximated \$915,000, including dealer-manager and placement agent fees of \$575,000 paid to MDB Capital Group LLC (MDB) and MDB's legal fees of \$60,000.

Equity Incentive Plan

The Company has an Equity Incentive Plan (the Plan) which provides for the granting of options to purchase shares of common stock, stock awards to purchase shares at no less than 85% of the value of the shares, and stock bonuses to officers, employees, board members, consultants, and advisors. The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors is authorized to administer the Plan and establish the grant terms, including the grant price, vesting period and exercise date. As of June 30, 2017, the number of shares of common stock reserved for issuance under the Plan totaled 1,657,732. The Plan provides for quarterly increases in the available number of authorized shares equal to the lesser of 10% of any new shares issued by the Company during the quarter immediately prior to the adjustment date or such lesser amount as the Board of Directors shall determine.

In the three months ended June 30, 2017, the Company granted 107,000 stock options under the Plan to employees. The stock options have exercise prices at the grant date fair value of \$3.80 per share, contractual lives of 10 years, and vest over 4 years. The fair value of stock options granted estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option valuation model was \$224,000. The recognized compensation expense associated with these grants for the three months ended June 30, 2017 was \$14,000. The following weighted-average assumptions were utilized in the calculation of the fair value of the stock options:

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Expected life                            | 6.25 years |
| Weighted average volatility              | 69%        |
| Forfeiture rate                          | 13%        |
| Weighted average risk-free interest rate | 1.90%      |
| Expected dividend rate                   | 0%         |

Outstanding stock option grants at June 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016 totaled 980,210 shares and 882,815 shares, respectively, with the right to purchase 693,904 shares and 547,532 shares being vested and exercisable at June 30, 2017 and December 31, 2016, respectively. The recognized compensation expense associated with these grants for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016 totaled \$76,000, \$219,000, \$200,000 and \$405,000, respectively. At June 30, 2017 the number of shares reserved under the Plan but unissued totaled 200,508. At June 30, 2017, in addition to the \$150,000 of director stock based compensation to be recognized in 2017, there was \$640,000 of total unrecognized compensation cost related to non-vested share based compensation arrangements granted under the Plan. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of 2.7 years.

Consultant Stock Plan

The Company has a Consultant Stock Plan (the Consultant Plan) which provides for the granting of shares of common stock to consultants who provide services related to capital raising, investor relations, and making a market in or promoting the Company's securities. The Company's officers, employees, and board members are not entitled to receive grants from the Consultant Plan. The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors is authorized to administer the Consultant Plan and establish the grant terms. The number of shares reserved for issuance under the Consultant Plan on June 30, 2017 totaled 142,359 with 104,149 of those shares unissued. The Consultant Plan provides for quarterly increases in the available number of authorized shares equal to the lesser of 1% of any new shares issued by the Company during the quarter immediately prior to the adjustment date or such lesser amount as the Board of Directors shall determine. In August 2016, the Company granted 10,000 shares of common stock under the Consultant Stock Plan to a consultant for services from June 2016 to May 2017 and subject to completion of service each quarter. The fair value of the stock at the time of grant was \$4.85 per share for a total value of \$49,000 which the Company recognizes in general and administrative expense on a pro-rated quarterly basis. The Consultant Plan expense for the three and six months ended June 30, 2017 and 2016 was \$12,000 and \$24,000 and \$10,000 and \$20,000, respectively.

Warrants

The Company has the following warrants outstanding at June 30, 2017:

| Exercise Price | Warrants  | Wtd. Avg.<br>Exercise<br>Price | Remaining Life<br>(in years) |
|----------------|-----------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| \$1.80         | 80,000    | \$1.80                         | 3.64                         |
| \$4.00         | 2,395,471 | \$4.00                         | 1.57                         |
| \$10.00        | 20,313    | \$10.00                        | 1.68                         |
|                | 2,495,784 | \$3.98                         |                              |

During the quarter ended June 30, 2017, warrants equivalent to 345,000 shares with a strike price of \$5.00 expired unexercised.

**Note 7 – Related Party Transactions**

In connection with the January 2017 Rights Offering, the Company paid MDB, the dealer-manager and placement agent, fees of \$575,000 and legal fees and other costs of \$60,000. MDB and its chief executive officer own a significant number of shares of the Company's common stock.

**Note 8 – Commitments**

On February 3, 2015, the Company and its Chief Executive Officer, Stephen E. Pirnat, entered into an employment agreement (the Agreement) which terminates on December 31, 2017, unless earlier terminated. Compensation under the Agreement includes an annual salary of \$350,000 with annual cost-of-living adjustments, a grant of stock options to purchase 300,000 shares of the Company's common stock, annual cash bonuses that may equal up to 60% of his annual salary and equity bonuses based on performance standards established by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors, medical and dental benefits for Mr. Pirnat and his family, other employee benefits offered to employees generally and relocation expenses up to approximately \$100,000. The Agreement may be terminated by the Company without cause under certain circumstances, as defined in the Agreement, whereby a severance payment

would be due in the amount of compensation that would have been due had employment not been terminated or one year of the current annual compensation, whichever is greater. In the event of a change in control, Mr. Pirnat would receive one year's compensation and all previously granted stock options would vest in full.

The Company has a field test agreement with a customer that was established to demonstrate and test the Duplex technology in a once through steam generator (OTSG) used to facilitate a thermally enhanced oil recovery process. Under the terms of the agreement, the Company has retrofitted an OTSG unit in order to achieve certain performance criteria. The agreement also includes time-sensitive pricing, delivery and installation terms, if elected, that will apply to future purchases of this Duplex application by this customer.

**Note 9 – Major Customers And Accounts Receivable**

One customer accounted for 100% of accounts receivable at June 30, 2017 and at December 31, 2016.

**SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AND OTHER INFORMATION  
CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT**

This report contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and the provisions of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Forward-looking statements give our current expectations or forecasts of future events. You can identify these statements by the fact that they do not relate strictly to historical or current facts. You can find many (but not all) of these statements by looking for words such as “approximates,” “believes,” “hopes,” “expects,” “anticipates,” “estimates,” “projects,” “intends,” “plans,” “would,” “should,” “could,” “may,” “will” or other similar expressions in this report. In particular, these include statements relating to future actions; prospective products, applications, customers, or technologies; future performance or results of anticipated products; anticipated expenses; and future financial results. These forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from our historical experience and our present expectations or projections. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to:

- our limited cash and our history of losses;
- our ability to successfully develop and implement our technology and achieve profitability;
- our limited operating history;
- emerging competition and rapidly advancing technology in our industry that may outpace our technology;
- customer demand for the products and services we develop;
- the impact of competitive or alternative products, technologies and pricing;
- our ability to manufacture any products we design;
- general economic conditions and events and the impact they may have on us and our potential customers;
- our ability to obtain adequate financing in the future;
- our ability to continue as a going concern;
- our success at managing the risks involved in the foregoing items; and
- other factors discussed in this report.

Forward-looking statements may appear throughout this report, including, without limitation, Item 2 “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.” The forward-looking statements are based upon management’s beliefs and assumptions and are made as of the date of this report. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements included in this report. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements.

Unless otherwise stated or the context otherwise requires, the terms “ClearSign,” “we,” “us,” “our” and the “Company” refer to ClearSign Combustion Corporation.

## **ITEM MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS 2. OF OPERATIONS**

*The following discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with the unaudited condensed financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q as well as our audited financial statements and related notes included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K. In addition to historical information, this discussion and analysis here and throughout this Form 10-Q contains forward-looking statements that involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Our actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements due to a number of factors, including but not limited to, the risks described in the section titled "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K and in this Form 10-Q.*

### **OVERVIEW**

We design and develop technologies for the purpose of improving key performance characteristics of combustion systems, including emission and operational performance, energy efficiency and overall cost-effectiveness. Our patented Duplex™ and Electrodynamic Combustion Control™ (ECC™) platform technologies enhance the performance of combustion systems in a broad range of markets, including the energy (upstream oil production and down-stream refining), commercial/industrial boiler, chemical, petrochemical, and power industries. Our Duplex technology uses a porous ceramic tile above a standard burner to significantly reduce flame length and achieve very low emissions without the need for external flue gas recirculation, selective catalytic reduction, or excess air systems. Our ECC technology introduces a computer-controlled high voltage electric field into a combustion volume in order to better control gas-phase chemical reactions and improve system performance and cost-effectiveness. To date, our operations have been funded primarily through sales of our equity securities. We have earned limited revenue since inception on January 23, 2008. We are headquartered in Seattle, Washington with an office in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Our initial target markets center on the energy sector, including upstream crude oil production through the use of once through steam generators (OTSGs) and wellhead enclosed flares and downstream oil refineries through the use of process heaters and boilers. In recent years, the energy sector has been significantly affected by the volatile market price of crude oil and marginal economic growth. Crude oil prices have stabilized during 2016 and early 2017 and enjoyed appreciation with the general post-election upswing in certain commodities and improved economic outlook. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the spot price of West Texas intermediate crude oil in the last five years has ranged from approximately \$110 per barrel to approximately \$25 per barrel, with 2016 prices reaching a low of \$27 per barrel and June 2017 prices approximating \$46+ per barrel. Regardless of the effect of crude oil prices, based upon our experience and feedback from current and prospective customers, we believe that the market continues to validate the appeal of our Duplex technology to the energy sector due to the technology's ability to lower emissions and maintain certain operational efficiencies.



We believe that operators in all of our target markets are under intense pressure to meet current and proposed federal, state and local emissions standards. The standards applicable to our target markets have been developed over the past 50 years with broad political input. Due to the localized effects of poor air quality, we expect these standards to continue to become more stringent regardless of political leadership. As an illustration, air emission standards are most stringent in the states of California and Texas, historically politically leaning in opposite directions. As a result, we believe that these standards are a significant driver in our development and sales efforts and that our Duplex technology can provide a unique, cost-effective pollution control solution for operators in comparison to competing products.

Emissions standards largely emanate from the Clean Air Act, which is administered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and regulates six common criteria air pollutants, including ground-level ozone. These regulations are enforced by state and local air quality districts as part of their compliance plans. As a precursor to ground-level ozone, nitrogen oxides (NOx) are regulated emissions by local air quality districts in order to achieve the EPA limits. The 8-hour ground-level ozone regulations have been reduced from 84 parts per billion (ppb) in 1997, to 75 ppb in 2008, and 70 ppb in 2015, with the requirement of realizing these levels approximately 25 years following the year of legislation. The areas of non-attainment related to this 1997 limit of 84 ppb are depicted below in the map on the left and the projected areas of non-attainment related to the 2015 limit of 70 ppb are depicted below in the map on the right.

Non-attainment areas under the 1997 limit of 84 ppb  
Source: EPA, August 2016

Projected non-attainment areas under the 2015 limit of 70 ppb  
Source: URS, August 2015

We have noted that local air quality districts in EPA designated “severe non-attainment zones” in California are uncertain as to how they will achieve the 2015 standard. As such, we believe that local regulators are in search of additional means beyond those included in the current regulations to comply with the impending standards. For example, although NOx emissions from refineries and other oil production and processing operations are highly regulated since they are historically a significant source of stationary NOx emissions, enclosed ground flares have not historically been viewed as a source requiring the same level of regulation. We believe that our Duplex technology is uniquely able to address the emissions challenges being faced by oil producers and other industries as those challenges relate to both current and reasonably predictable future local air emission standards.

In the process of attempting to develop our ECC technology beyond laboratory scale for a potential process heater design in 2013, we developed Duplex, which is a simplified gaseous fuel application. While we continued to pursue development of our ECC technology through laboratory testing, in 2014 we began to pursue field development and conditional sales of our Duplex technology. We engaged in a number of field development projects in which we successfully demonstrated the technology operating with thermal output of up to 52 million BTU/hr. and pursued business development and marketing activities with established entities that use steam generators, process heaters, enclosed flares, boilers, and other combustion systems as well as original equipment manufacturers.

We have had numerous field test projects in three target markets using our Duplex technology: one related to wellhead enclosed flares, four related to process heaters in the oil refining industry, and three related to OTSGs in the enhanced oil recovery industry. We believe that the successful completion of these field development projects, which resulted from years of research and development work, are fundamental to the commercialization of our Duplex product. We reported our first meaningful product sales of \$621,000 during the second half of 2016 from the installation of our Duplex technology through retrofits in a wellhead enclosed flare for a major California oil producer, an enhanced oil recovery OTSG, and two refinery process heater projects. Furthermore, we entered into an agreement to supply the oil producer with 5 additional wellhead enclosed flare retrofits for \$900,000 and in the first quarter of 2017 we delivered two units generating sales revenue of \$360,000. Our laboratory research currently focuses on enhancing our Duplex products and includes the development of a packaged boiler application that enhances operational performance by eliminating flue gas recirculation.

## **Product Applications of Duplex**

### *Process Heaters in the Oil Refining Industry*

We have to date applied our Duplex technology through retrofits of existing burners. These often involve engineering around an existing burner architecture that can complicate the Duplex installation. Because of this, we believe that the retrofit market is best suited for larger projects and larger applications of Duplex.



We have recently completed laboratory testing and intend to begin field testing a new burner product for refinery and industrial process heater applications. The Duplex Plug & Play™ design provides a more simplified, pre-engineered and standardized direct burner replacement for traditional refinery process heaters. We believe that this product will reduce the customized engineering associated with typical retrofits and lend itself to mass production. The product derives its name from the fact that it is designed to allow a multi-burner heater or furnace to continue operating during installation rather than be shut down. If field testing confirms this design attribute, the ability to install the Duplex Plug & Play while the remaining burner system is operational will allow customers to limit down time and shorten the sales cycle often prolonged by annual or semi-annual scheduled maintenance. As described below, we plan to begin field testing at a Texas oil refinery this fall. If successful, we believe that this product, our first complete burner product, will be suitable for licensing and potential manufacturing arrangements with OEMs with established manufacturing and distribution capabilities.

#### Wellhead Enclosed Ground Flares

A major California oil producer approached us in early 2016 to address a unique emission compliance need relating to wellhead enclosed ground flares. We developed a Duplex application, completed the wellhead enclosed ground flare retrofit and received payment in the third quarter of 2016, thereby recognizing \$260,000 of revenue. This was an important milestone because it demonstrated a broad application of our Duplex technology. As a result, we entered into an agreement to supply this oil producer with 5 additional wellhead enclosed flare retrofits for \$900,000, with 2 units completed in the first quarter of 2017. The remaining 3 units are expected to be completed during the course of 2017 depending on the oil producer customer's schedule. We previously received 40% of the contract amount as an initial payment on all units, which is standard for the industry for this stage of completion. These funds, net of costs through quarter end, are reflected as contract liabilities on our balance sheet. These sales will be recognized as each of the remaining three units are installed and accepted by the customer and the performance obligations are completed. Our expectation is that our Duplex retrofit sales will normalize over time to gross margins approximating 50%.

Based upon discussions with local regulators and regulatory reports, we believe that flare emissions are a potential target for increased regulation, in part based upon the success of our installations to date. In anticipation of this, we are pursuing potential customers with target ground flare applications that would benefit from our proven installations.

#### OTSGs in Enhanced Oil Recovery Industry

We have successfully installed Duplex in two OTSG projects in the enhanced oil recovery industry in Southern California. In March 2017 we entered into an agreement to complete a third installation for this customer fueled by oil field waste gas. We believe that our successful installations in the OTSG market to date are gaining regulator acceptance by the Southern California regulatory authorities and, as a result, market acceptance.

We have now achieved emission results which exceeded current local Best Available Control Technology (BACT) levels in multiple installations in California related to our three target industries. We intend to continue to demonstrate Duplex capabilities through (i) working with local air quality officials to demonstrate the effectiveness of the technology, (ii) operating in-place units, (iii) engineering and testing with new customers and applications, (iv) pursuing additional lab research and development of new applications (e.g. packaged boilers) and next generation improvements to Duplex design and standardization, including the pursuit of more complete systems, similar to the Duplex Plug & Play, for application in other vertical markets, and (iv) assisting our customers in making emission results available for designation as BACT by local regulatory bodies.

We are pursuing development of our ECC technology through laboratory research where we have demonstrated certain attributes of our proprietary technology operating in our research facility with thermal output of up to 2 million BTU/hr. ECC appears to be appropriate for established entities that use solid fuel burners or related combustion systems.

Our business plan contemplates licensing our technology after we prove commercial viability and generate interest from original equipment manufacturers (OEMs). Licensing would significantly change the makeup of our sales mix, sales recognition, and margins. Licensing our technology within one or an array of selected vertical markets (e.g. burners for refinery process heaters or packaged boilers) could dramatically accelerate the global sales and market adoption rate of our technology. However, in order to create channel flexibility and meet end user demand, we intend to continue to pursue end user customers through direct sales, sub-contractors, or channel partners. While we are currently pursuing various licensing arrangements, we have no agreements at this time and do not anticipate entering into any such agreements prior to completing the field development projects discussed above and completing a meaningful number of installations and sales. We believe that the continuing development of Duplex, the completion of sales and an increase in end-users will enhance our ability to license our technology.

Historically, we have funded our operations through the sale of our securities, including the following:

In April and May 2012, we completed an initial public offering of our common stock whereby we sold 3,450,000 shares of common stock at \$4.00 per share, which included the exercise of the underwriter's overallotment option, resulting in gross proceeds of \$13.8 million and, after deducting certain costs paid with common stock, net proceeds of approximately \$11.6 million.

In March 2014, we completed a registered direct offering of our common stock whereby we sold 812,500 shares of common stock at \$8.00 per share resulting in gross proceeds of \$6.5 million and net proceeds of approximately \$5.8 million.

In February 2015, we completed an underwritten public offering of our common stock whereby we sold 2,990,000 shares of common stock at \$5.85 per share resulting in gross proceeds of \$17.5 million and net proceeds of approximately \$16.3 million.

In January 2017, we completed a rights offering and public offering pursuant to which we sold 2,395,471 units for \$4.00 per unit (the Rights Offering) with each unit consisting of one share of common stock and one warrant to purchase one share of common stock for \$4.00 per share resulting in gross proceeds of \$9.6 million and net proceeds of approximately \$8.7 million.

Our costs include employee salaries and benefits, compensation paid to consultants, materials and supplies for research, costs associated with development activities including materials, sub-contractors, travel and administration, legal expenses, sales and marketing costs, general and administrative expenses, and other costs associated with an early stage, publicly-traded technology company. We currently have 17 full-time employees. We anticipate increasing the number of employees required to support our activities in the areas of research and development, sales and marketing, and general and administrative functions. We expect to incur consulting expenses related to technology development commensurate with our current levels and we expect to incur increasing expenses to protect our intellectual property.

The amount that we spend for any specific purpose may vary significantly, and could depend on a number of factors including, but not limited to, the pace of progress of our commercialization and development efforts, actual needs with respect to product testing, development and research, market conditions, and changes in or revisions to our marketing strategies.

Research, development, and commercial acceptance of new technologies are, by their nature, unpredictable. Although we will undertake development and commercialization efforts with reasonable diligence, there can be no assurance that the net proceeds from our securities offerings will be sufficient to enable us to develop our technology to the

extent needed to create future sales to sustain operations. If the net proceeds from these offerings are insufficient for this purpose, we will consider other options to continue our path to commercialization, including, but not limited to, additional financing through follow-on equity offerings, debt financing, co-development agreements, sale or licensing of developed intellectual or other property, or other alternatives.

We cannot assure that our technology will be accepted, that we will ever earn revenues sufficient to support our operations, or that we will ever be profitable. Furthermore, we have no committed source of financing and we cannot assure that we will be able to raise money as and when we need it to continue our operations. If we cannot raise funds as and when we need them, we may be required to scale back our development plans by reducing expenditures for employees, consultants, business development and marketing efforts or to otherwise severely curtail, or even to cease, our operations.

## CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations is based upon our financial statements, which have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Certain accounting policies and estimates are particularly important to the understanding of our financial position and results of operations and require the application of significant judgment by our management or can be materially affected by changes from period to period in economic factors or conditions that are outside of our control. As a result, they are subject to an inherent degree of uncertainty. In applying these policies, our management uses their judgment to determine the appropriate assumptions to be used in the determination of certain estimates. Those estimates are based on our historical operations, our future business plans and projected financial results, the terms of existing contracts, our observance of trends in the industry, information provided by our customers and information available from other outside sources, as appropriate. See Note 2 to our unaudited condensed financial statements for a more complete description of our significant accounting policies.

Revenue Recognition and Cost of Sales. The Company reviews each contract to identify contract rights, performance obligations, and transaction prices, including the allocation of prices to separate performance obligations. Revenues and costs of sales are recognized once the goods or services are delivered to the customer's control and performance obligations are satisfied. Typically, the Company's customer contracts include performance obligations related to emission levels or other metrics that are measured at project completion.

Product Warranties. The Company warrants all installed products against defects in materials and workmanship for a period specified in each contract by replacing failed parts. Accruals for product warranties are based on historical warranty experience and current product performance trends, and are recorded at the time revenue is recognized as a component of cost of sales. The warranty liabilities are reduced by material and labor costs used to replace parts over the warranty period in the periods in which the costs are incurred. The Company periodically assesses the adequacy of its recorded warranty liabilities and adjusts the amounts as necessary, and such adjustments could be material in the future if estimates differ significantly from actual warranty expense. The warranty liabilities are included in accrued liabilities in the balance sheets.

Research and Development. The cost of research and development is expensed as incurred. Research and development costs consist of salaries, benefits, share based compensation, consulting fees, rent, utilities, depreciation, and consumables.

Patents and Trademarks. Patents and trademarks are recorded at cost. Amortization is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets once they are issued.



**Stock-Based Compensation.** The costs of all employee stock options, as well as other equity-based compensation arrangements, are reflected in the financial statements based on the estimated fair value of the awards on the grant date. That cost is recognized over the period during which an employee is required to provide service in exchange for the award. Stock compensation for stock granted to non-employees is determined as the fair value of the consideration received or the fair value of equity instruments issued, whichever is more reliably measured.

## **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

### **Comparison of the Three and Six Months Ending June 30, 2017 and 2016**

*Sales and Gross Profit.* Gross profit of \$109,000, or 30%, was realized on product sales totaling \$360,000 in the six months ended June 30, 2017. These sales resulted from the installation of our Duplex technology in two enclosed ground flares for a major California oil producer. Our contract with this customer includes three more installations totaling approximately \$540,000 and involves terms typical to the industry with progress payments made over the delivery schedule, which we expect to be completed during 2017 depending on the oil producer customer's schedule. Our expectation is that our Duplex product sales will normalize over time to gross margins approximating 50%. We earned no revenues from sales during the quarter ended June 30, 2017 or during the three or six month periods ending June 30, 2016.

*Operating Expenses.* Operating expenses, consisting of research and development (R&D) and general and administrative (G&A) expenses, decreased by approximately \$191,000 to \$2,251,000 for the three months ended June 30, 2017, referred to herein as Q2 2017, as compared to \$2,442,000 for the same period in 2016 (Q2 2016). The Company decreased its R&D expenses by \$75,000 to \$1,141,000 for Q2 2017, as compared to \$1,216,000 for Q2 2016, primarily due to decreased field testing and development costs of our Duplex technology. G&A expenses decreased by \$116,000 to \$1,110,000 in Q2 2017 as compared to \$1,226,000 in Q2 2016, resulting primarily from decreased intellectual property expenses.

Operating expenses, decreased by approximately \$290,000 to \$4,753,000 for the six months ended June 30, 2017 compared to \$5,043,000 for the same period in 2016. The Company decreased its R&D expenses by \$226,000 to \$2,315,000 for 2017, as compared to \$2,541,000 for the same period in 2016, primarily due to decreased field testing and development costs of our Duplex technology. G&A expenses decreased by \$64,000 to \$2,438,000 in 2017 as compared to \$2,502,000 in 2016 resulting primarily from decreased intellectual property expenses.

*Loss from Operations.* Due to the conversion of field projects into contract liabilities, our loss from operations decreased during Q2 2017 by \$191,000, from \$2,442,000 in Q2 2016 to \$2,251,000 in Q2 2017 and decreased for the six months ended June 30, 2017 by \$399,000 to \$4,644,000 as compared with \$5,043,000 for the six months ended June 30, 2016.

*Net Loss.* Primarily as a result of the decrease in intellectual property costs, our net loss for Q2 2017 was \$2,236,000 as compared to a net loss of \$2,431,000 for Q2 2016, resulting in a decreased net loss of \$195,000 and our net loss for the six months ended June 30, 2017 was \$4,615,000 as compared to a net loss of \$5,020,000 for the same period in 2016, resulting in a decreased net loss of \$405,000.

## **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

At June 30, 2017, our cash and cash equivalent balance totaled \$5,460,000 compared to \$1,259,000 at December 31, 2016. This increase resulted primarily from \$8.7 million of net proceeds we received from our Rights Offering in January 2017 offset by our operating costs for the six months ended June 30, 2017 associated with the ongoing research and development of our technology. As of June 30, 2017, the Company had cash and cash equivalents totaling \$5,460,000 available to fund the Company's ongoing business activities through the end of the first quarter of 2018. In order to continue business operations beyond that point, the Company currently anticipates that it will need to raise additional capital. Our research and development costs are ongoing and we expect to require additional funding to meet these expenses. To that end we may undertake offerings of our securities, debt financing, selling or licensing our developed intellectual or other property, or other alternatives. We filed a Form S-3 shelf registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 29, 2015 that was declared effective on January 7, 2016. The registration statement allows us to offer common stock, preferred stock, warrants or units from time to time as

market conditions permit to fund the ongoing operations of the Company. Until the growth of revenue streams increases to a level that covers operating expenses it is the Company's plan to continue to fund operations in this manner.

At June 30, 2017, our current assets were in excess of current liabilities resulting in working capital of \$5,043,000 compared to \$208,000 at December 31, 2016. The increase in working capital resulted primarily from the net proceeds of our Rights Offering offset by the funds used in operations and invested in intangible and fixed assets.

Operating activities for the six months ended June 30, 2017 resulted in cash outflows of \$4,230,000 which were due primarily to the loss for the period of \$4,615,000 and net changes in working capital, exclusive of cash, which reduced cash flow by \$149,000. These were offset primarily by other non-cash expenses of \$214,000 and services paid with common stock and stock options of \$393,000. Operating activities for the six months ended June 30, 2016 resulted in cash outflows of \$4,901,000, which were due primarily to the loss for the period of \$5,020,000 and net changes in working capital (exclusive of cash) which reduced cash flow by \$619,000 and were partially offset by services paid with common stock and stock options of \$425,000 and other non-cash expenses of \$313,000.

Investing activities for the six months ended June 30, 2017 resulted in cash outflows of \$179,000 for development of patents and \$57,000 for acquisition of fixed assets, compared to \$651,000 in disbursements for patent development and other intangibles and \$60,000 for the acquisition of fixed assets during the same period of 2016.

There were net cash inflows of \$8,667,000 from our Rights Offering in the six months ended June 30, 2017. There were no financing activities for the six months ended June 30, 2016.

**Off-Balance Sheet Transactions**

We do not have any off-balance sheet transactions.

**ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

As a smaller reporting company we are not required to provide this information.

**ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

**Disclosure controls and procedures**

Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by an issuer in the reports that it files or submits under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Act”), is accumulated and communicated to the issuer’s management, including its principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Our management, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) (principal executive officer) and our Chief Financial Officer (CFO) (principal financial and accounting officer), has concluded that, as of June 30, 2017, our disclosure controls and procedures are effective.

**Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

There have been no material changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended June 30, 2017 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal controls over financial reporting.

**Inherent Limitations on Effectiveness of Controls**

Our management, including our CEO and CFO, does not expect that our disclosure controls and procedures or our internal control over financial reporting will prevent or detect all errors and all fraud. A control system, no matter how well-designed and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the control system’s objectives will be met. The design of a control system must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints, and the benefits of controls must be considered relative to their costs. Further, because of the inherent limitations in all control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that misstatements due to error or fraud will not occur or that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, have been detected. The design of any system of controls is based in part on certain assumptions about the likelihood of future events, and there can be no assurance that any design will

succeed in achieving its stated goals under all potential future conditions. Projections of any evaluation of the effectiveness of controls to future periods are subject to risks. Over time, controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or deterioration in the degree of compliance with policies or procedures.

## **PART II-OTHER INFORMATION**

### **ITEM 1.**

### **LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

From time to time we may become involved in various lawsuits and legal proceedings which arise in the ordinary course of business. However, litigation is subject to inherent uncertainties and an adverse result in these or other matters may arise from time to time that may harm our business. We are currently not aware of any such legal proceedings or claims that we believe will have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or operating results.

### **ITEM 1A.**

### **RISK FACTORS**

We incorporate herein by reference the risk factors included under Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 which we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 14, 2017.

**ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS**

On June 30, 2017, we issued 2,500 shares of common stock, having a per share value of \$4.85, the closing price of our common stock on August 4, 2016, the date of grant, from our 2013 Consultant Stock Plan to our investor relations firm, Three Part Advisors, LLC, for services provided in the three months ended June 30, 2017.

**ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES**

Not applicable.

**ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES**

Not applicable.

**ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION**

Not applicable.

**ITEM 6. EXHIBITS**

| <b>Exhibit Number</b> | <b>Document</b>   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 3.1                   | Articles of Incorporation of ClearSign Combustion Corporation, amended on February 2, 2011 (1)                        |
| 3.1.1                 | Articles of Amendment to Articles of Incorporation of ClearSign Combustion Corporation filed on December 22, 2011 (1) |
| 3.2                   | Bylaws (1)  |
| 10.1                  | Separation Agreement and General Release with James N. Harmon dated May 11,2017 (2)                                   |
| 10.2                  | Consulting Agreement with James N. Harmon dated May 11, 2017 (2)  |
| 31.1                  | Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Chief Executive Officer*  |
| 31.2                  | Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification of Chief Financial Officer*  |
| 32.1                  | Section 1350 Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer+                                    |
| 101.INS               | XBRL Instant Document*  |
| 101.SCH               | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document*  |
| 101.CAL               | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document*  |
| 101.DEF               | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document*   |
| 101.LAB               | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document*  |
| 101.PRE               | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document*   |

\*Filed herewith

+Furnished herewith



Edgar Filing: CLEARSIGN COMBUSTION CORP - Form 10-Q

- (1) Incorporated by reference from the registrant's registration statement on Form S-1, as amended, file number 333-177946, originally filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 14, 2011.
- (2) Incorporated by reference from the registrant's report on Form 8-K, originally filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 11, 2017.

**SIGNATURES**

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

**CLEARSIGN COMBUSTION  
CORPORATION**  
(Registrant)

Date: August 14, 2017 By: /s/ Stephen E. Pirnat  
Stephen E. Pirnat  
Chief Executive Officer

By: /s/ Brian G. Fike  
Brian G. Fike  
Interim Chief Financial Officer