

**ALABAMA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS
GOVERNING UNIFORM SYSTEM OF
ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING
OF UTILITIES**

Section 1. The following shall be known as the "Uniform System of Accounting and Reporting for Utilities." "Utility" as herein used shall be held to include all utilities as defined in Section 37-4-1, Code of Alabama, 1975, and all pipeline companies as defined in Section 37-2-1, Code of Alabama, 1975. Accounting rules for telephone companies are included in the Telephone Rules.

Section 2. All utilities shall keep their books of record as herein prescribed by this Commission.

Section 3. The accounting systems hereby prescribed are as follows:

(a) Electric and Gas: The appropriate, currently effective Uniform System of Accounts of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall be used by all electric and gas utilities.

(b) Water: Generally Accepted Accounting Principles applied on a consistent basis shall be used by all water utilities.

(c) Pipeline Companies: The appropriate, currently effective Uniform System of Accounts of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall be used by all pipeline companies.

Section 4. The classification which governs the minimum detail in which each utility shall keep its accounts shall be determined according to the annual gross operating revenue of such utility as more fully set forth in the general instructions contained in the Uniform System of Accounts prescribed for it hereinabove.

Section 5. Each utility shall so keep its general, subsidiary and books of original entry, together with all documents pertaining to either plant or operating accounts as clearly to reflect the cost of its properties, including additions thereto and retirements therefrom; also as correctly to record income and expense and to facilitate the calculation of gross and net returns. Each entry must be capable of support by definite history of the transaction recorded to the end that ready and exact verification in detail of all facts may be obtained. The books and records to which reference is made in this paragraph include not only those called books in a technical sense, but all stock books, minute books, charts, maps, drawings, contracts and writings, invoices, vouchers of whatever nature, store room records and other records which are connected with the operations and history and development of the utility and its properties.

Section 6. Every utility furnishing service within this State must either keep its books of account and records at its principal place of business in this State, or keep and preserve them elsewhere, and deliver them at its principal place of business in this State, at such reasonable time or times as the Commission may direct, for examination and inspection.

- Section 7.** Where the same company operates in Alabama as well as in other states, it shall keep its investment, revenue and expense accounts for its property in the State of Alabama, separately from those of its property in other states.
- Section 8.** The books and records of all utilities shall be open for examination and inspection by members of the Commission or its authorized representatives or employees at any reasonable time.
- Section 9.** Each utility within the jurisdiction of this Commission shall file annual financial operating and statistical reports upon forms prescribed by or authorized by the Commission and such other reports of like nature at more frequent intervals as may be required by direction of the Commission from time to time. All foot notes and instructions contained on the report forms prescribed or authorized by the Commission for making annual reports must be carefully observed.
- Section 10.** The above-described annual report shall be filed with the Commission on or before the first day of the fifth (5th) month following the end of the reporting utility's fiscal year. The report shall be a true and correct statement of facts as contained in the books and records of the utility.
- Section 11.** All annual reports and other reports made to the Commission shall be signed and sworn to by the President (or Vice President) and Treasurer or other officer in charge of such accounting, or, if under trust or receivership operation, by majority of trustees or receivers, or, if unincorporated, by the proprietor, manager or auditor.
- Section 12.** All annual reports must be made in triplicate and two copies thereof returned to the Commission and the third copy retained in the files of the utility for permanent reference.
- Section 13.** The Commission may, from time to time, alter or amend, or make such modifications with respect to the application of the above prescribed rules and regulations as may be deemed necessary and proper to meet changed and exceptional conditions. Also, the Commission may authorize exceptions to the requirements of the above prescribed rules and regulations when warranted by the circumstances of a specific company.
- Section 14.** The above prescribed rules and regulations are not intended to and shall not have the effect of abrogating, repealing or modifying rules of specific application which have heretofore been authorized or which may in the future be authorized for any utility.