

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL
STATE OF CONNECTICUT



Uniform System of Accounts
prescribed for
Water Utilities
Class A

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1965
REPRINTED AUGUST 1, 1986

DOCKET NO. 10315

UNIFORM SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTS

FOR

CLASS "A"

WATER UTILITIES

ORDER

It appearing, that by Commission Order dated August 27, 1941 in Docket No. 7038, a Uniform System of Accounts was prescribed for water companies, including each municipally operated water system or department thereof, having annual water revenues of \$50,000 or more, and

It appearing further, that said system of accounts prescribed in Docket No. 7038 was rescinded effective January 1, 1965, and

It appearing further, that due notice was given of the proposal of the Commission to promulgate a revised system of accounts for water utilities and all interested parties were afforded opportunity to submit their comments,

Now, therefore, it is ordered, that on and after January 1, 1965, each water company and each municipally operated water system or department thereof, having gross annual revenues of \$50,000 or more, subject to accounting regulation by the Commission shall keep its records and accounts in conformity with the uniform system of accounts herewith promulgated, and with the definitions and instructions contained in said system of accounts.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 9th day of October, 1964.

EUGENE S. LOUGHLIN	}	PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
WALLACE R. BURKE		
PAUL J. DRISCOLL		

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Definitions	1
General Instructions	4
Utility Plant Instructions	10
Operating Expense Instructions	30
Balance Sheet Accounts	33
Utility Plant Accounts	71
Income Accounts	91
Retained Earnings Accounts	106
Operating Revenue Accounts	108
Operation and Maintenance Expense Accounts	113

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL

State of Connecticut

Transmittal Sheet No. 2

to

**UNIFORM SYSTEMS OF ACCOUNTS
PRESCRIBED FOR CLASS "A" WATER UTILITIES**

The pages accompanying this transmittal sheet reflect changes in the loose-leaf edition of the Uniform System of Accounts Prescribed for Class "A" Water Utilities effective January 1, 1965 (as amended).

Statement of Purpose: The purpose of these amendments is to provide for a procedure by which contributions in aid of construction will be amortized over the life of the plant for which they were made rather than remaining indefinitely on the company's books. (Legislative Regulation Review Committee approved on May 21, 1986.)

These amendments shall be effective for the reporting year 1986.

INSTRUCTIONS

Remove the following pages

65 - 66

Insert the attached pages

65 thru 66A

File this transmittal sheet at the front of the publication. It provides reference authority for changes, a method of determining that all amendments have been received, and a check for determining if the volume contains the proper pages.

DEFINITIONS

When used in this system of accounts:

1. "Accounts" means the accounts prescribed in this system of accounts.
2. "Actually issued," as applied to securities issued or assumed by the utility, means those which have been sold to bona fide purchasers for a valuable consideration, those issued as dividends on stock, and those which have been issued in accordance with contractual requirements direct to trustees of sinking funds.
3. "Actually outstanding," as applied to securities issued or assumed by the utility, means those which have been actually issued and are neither retired nor held by or for the utility; provided, however, that securities held by trustees shall be considered as actually outstanding.
4. "Amortization" means the gradual extinguishment of an amount in an account by distributing such amount over a fixed period, over the life of the asset or liability to which it applies, or over the period during which it is anticipated the benefit will be realized.
5. A. "Associated companies" means companies or persons that, directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, control, or are controlled by, or are under common control with, the accounting company.
 B. "Control" (including the terms "controlling," "controlled by," and "under common control with") means the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a company, whether such power is exercised through one or more intermediary companies, or alone, or in conjunction with, or pursuant to an agreement, and whether such power is established through a majority or minority ownership or voting of securities, common directors, officers, or stockholders, voting trusts, holding trusts, associated companies, contract or any other direct or indirect means.
6. "Book cost" means the amount at which property is recorded in these accounts without deduction of related provisions for accrued depreciation, amortization, or for other purposes.
7. "Commission," unless otherwise indicated by the context, means the commission prescribing this system of accounts.
8. "Cost" means the amount of money actually paid for property or services. When the consideration given is other than cash, the value of such consideration shall be determined on a cash basis.
9. "Cost of removal" means the cost of demolishing, dismantling,

tearing down or otherwise removing utility plant, including the cost of transportation and handling incidental thereto.

10. "Debt expense" means all expenses in connection with the issuance and initial sale of evidences of debt, such as fees for drafting mortgages and trust deeds; fees and taxes for issuing or recording evidences of debt; cost of engraving and printing bonds and certificates of indebtedness; fees paid trustees; specific costs of obtaining governmental authority; fees for legal services; fees and commissions paid underwriters, brokers, and salesmen for marketing such evidences of debt; fees and expenses of listing on exchanges; and other like costs.

11. "Depreciation," as applied to depreciable utility plant, means the loss in service value not restored by current maintenance, incurred in connection with the consumption or prospective retirement of utility plant in the course of service from causes which are known to be in current operation and against which the utility is not protected by insurance. Among the causes to be given consideration are wear and tear, decay, action of the elements, inadequacy, obsolescence, changes in the art, changes in demand and requirements of public authorities.

12. "Discount," as applied to the securities issued or assumed by the utility, means the excess of the par (stated value of no-par stocks) or face value of the securities plus interest or dividends accrued at the date of the sale over the cash value of the consideration received from their sale.

13. "Investment advances" means advances, represented by notes or by book accounts only, with respect to which it is mutually agreed or intended between the creditor and debtor that they shall be settled by the issuance of securities or shall not be subject to current settlement.

14. "Minor items of property" means the associated parts or items of which retirement units are composed.

15. "Net salvage value" means the salvage value of property retired less the cost of removal.

16. "Nominally issued," as applied to securities issued or assumed by the utility, means those which have been signed, certified, or otherwise executed, and placed with the proper officer for sale and delivery, or pledged, or otherwise placed in some special fund of the utility, but which have not been sold, or issued direct to trustees of sinking funds in accordance with contractual requirements.

17. "Nominally outstanding," as applied to securities issued or assumed by the utility, means those which, after being actually issued, have been reacquired by or for the utility under circumstances which require them to be considered as held alive and not retired, provided, however, that securities held by trustees shall be considered as actually outstanding.

18. "Original cost," as applied to utility plant, means the cost of such property to the person first devoting it to public service.

19. "Person" means an individual, a corporation, a partnership, an association, a joint stock company, a business trust, or any organized group of persons, whether incorporated or not, or any receiver or trustee.

20. "Premium," as applied to the securities issued or assumed by the utility, means the excess of the cash value of the consideration received from their sale over the sum of their par (stated value of no-par stocks) or face value and interest or dividends accrued at the date of sale.

21. "Property retired," as applied to utility plant, means property which has been removed, sold, abandoned, destroyed, or which for any cause has been withdrawn from service.

22. "Replacing" or "replacement," when not otherwise indicated in the context, means the construction or installation of utility plant in place of property retired, together with the removal of the property retired.

23. "Retirement units" mean those items of utility plant which, when retired, with or without replacement, are accounted for by crediting the book cost thereof to the utility plant account in which included.

24. "Salvage value" means the amount received for property retired, less any expenses incurred in connection with the sale or in preparing the property for sale, or, if retained, the amount at which the material recoverable is chargeable to materials and supplies, or other appropriate account.

25. "Service life" means the time between the date utility plant is includible in utility plant in service, or utility plant leased to others, and the date of its retirement. If depreciation is accounted for on a production basis rather than on a time basis, then service life should be measured in terms of the appropriate unit of production.

26. "Service value" means the difference between the original cost and the net salvage value of utility plant.

27. "Subsidiary Company" means a company which is controlled by the utility through ownership of voting stock. (See "Definitions" Item 5B "Control"). A corporate joint venture in which a corporation is owned by a small group of businesses as a separate and specific business or project for the mutual benefit of the members of the group is a subsidiary company for the purposes of this system of accounts.

28. "Utility," as used herein and when not otherwise indicated in the context, means any public utility to which this system of accounts is applicable.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Applicability of Uniform System of Accounts.

A. For the purpose of applying systems of accounts prescribed by the Department, water utilities are divided into three classes as follows:

- over 49,999,999
class A-1*
- Class A. Utilities having annual water operating revenues of \$500,000 ~~or more~~ *to \$9,999,999*
 - Class B. Utilities having annual water operating revenues of \$100,000 ~~or more~~, but less than ~~\$400,000~~ *\$999,999*.
 - Class C. Utilities having annual water operating revenues of less than \$100,000.

B. This system of accounts ~~applies~~ to Class A utilities.

C. The class to which any utility belongs shall originally be determined by the average of its annual water operating revenues for the last three consecutive years. Subsequent changes in classification shall be made when the annual water operating revenues for each of the three immediately preceding years shall exceed the upper limit, or be less than the lower limit, of the annual water operating revenues of the classification previously applicable to the utility.

D. Any utility may, at its option, adopt the system of accounts prescribed by the Commission for any larger class of utilities.

2. Records.

A. Each utility shall keep its books of account, and all other books, records, and memoranda which support the entries in such books of account so as to be able to furnish readily full information as to any item included in any account. Each entry shall be supported by such detailed information as will permit a ready identification, analysis, and verification of all facts relevant thereto.

B. The books and records referred to herein include not only ac-

counting records in a limited technical sense, but all other records, such as minute books, stock books, reports, correspondence, memoranda, etc., which may be useful in developing the history of or facts regarding any transaction.

C. No utility shall destroy any such books or records unless the destruction thereof is permitted by rules and regulations of the Commission.

D. In addition to prescribed accounts, clearing accounts, temporary or experimental accounts, and subdivisions of any account, may be kept, provided the integrity of the prescribed accounts is not impaired.

E. All amounts included in the accounts prescribed herein for utility plant and operating expenses shall be just and reasonable and any payments or accruals by the utility in excess of just and reasonable charges shall be included in account 426, Misc. Income Deductions.

F. The arrangement or sequence of the accounts prescribed herein shall not be controlling as to the arrangement or sequence in report forms which may be prescribed by the Commission.

3. Numbering System.

A. The account numbering scheme used herein consists of a system of three-digit whole numbers as follows:

- 100-199 Assets and Other Debits.
- 200-299 Liabilities and Other Credits.
- 300-399 Plant Accounts.
- 400-432, 434-435 Income Accounts.
- 433, 436-439 Retained Earnings Accounts.
- 460-479 Revenue Accounts.
- 600-699 Production, Transmission and Distribution Expenses.
- 900-949 Customer Accounts, Sales and General Administrative Expenses.

B. In certain instances, numbers have been skipped in order to allow for possible later expansion or to permit better coordination with the numbering system for other utility departments.

C. The numbers prefixed to account titles are solely for convenience of reference and are not part of the titles. Each utility may adopt such scheme of account numbers as it deems appropriate; provided, however, that it shall keep readily available a list of the account numbers and subdivisions of accounts which it uses and a reconciliation of such numbers

and subdivisions with the account numbers and titles provided herein. Further, the records must be so kept as to permit classification or summarization each accounting period according to the prescribed accounts.

4. Accounting Period.

Each utility shall keep its books on a monthly basis so that for each month all transactions applicable thereto, as nearly as may be ascertained, shall be entered in the books of the utility. Amounts applicable or assignable to specific utility departments shall be so segregated monthly. Each utility shall close its books at the end of each calendar year.

5. Submittal of Questions.

To maintain uniformity of accounting, utilities shall submit questions of doubtful interpretation to the Commission for consideration and decision.

6. Item Lists.

Lists of "items" appearing in the texts of the accounts or elsewhere herein are for the purpose of more clearly indicating the application of the prescribed accounting. The lists are intended to be representative, but not exhaustive. The appearance of an item in a list warrants the inclusion of the item in the account mentioned only when the text of the account also indicates inclusion inasmuch as the same item frequently appears in more than one list. The proper entry in each instance must be determined by the texts of the accounts.

7. Extraordinary Items.

It is the intent that net income shall reflect all items of profit and loss during the period with the sole exception of prior period adjustments as described in paragraph 7.1 below. Those items related to the effects of events and transactions which have occurred during the current period and which are not typical or customary business activities of the company shall be considered extraordinary items. Accordingly, they will be events and transactions of significant effect which would not be expected to recur frequently and which would not be considered as recurring factors in any evaluation of the ordinary operating processes of business. (In determining significance, items of a similar nature should be considered in the aggregate. Dissimilar items should be considered individually; however, if they are few in number, they may be considered in aggregate.) To be considered as extraordinary under the above guidelines, an item should be more than approximately 5 percent of income,

computed before extraordinary items. Commission approval must be obtained to treat an item of less than 5 percent, as extraordinary. (see accounts 434 and 435.)

7.1 Prior Period Items.

A. As a general rule, items relating to transactions which occurred prior to the current calendar year but were not recorded in the books of account shall be included in the same accounts in which they would have been recorded had the item been recorded in the proper period. Such items relate to events or transactions which occurred in a prior period or periods, the accounting effects of which could not be determined with reasonable assurance at the time, usually because of major uncertainty then existing. When the amount of a prior period item is relatively so large its inclusion for a single month would distort the accounts for that month, the amount may be distributed in equal amounts to the accounts for the current and remaining months of the calendar year. However, if the amount of any prior period item is so large that the company believes its inclusion in the income statement would seriously distort the net income for the year, the company may request Commission approval to record the amount in account 439, Adjustments to Retained Earnings. Such a request must be accompanied by adequate justification.

B. Treatment as prior period adjustments should not be applied to the normal, recurring corrections and adjustments which are the natural result of the use of estimates inherent in the accounting process. For example, changes in the estimated remaining lives of fixed assets affect the computed amounts of depreciation, but these changes should be considered prospective in nature and not prior period adjustments. Similarly, relatively insignificant adjustments of provisions for liabilities (including income taxes) made in prior periods should be considered recurring items to be reflected in operations of the current period. Some uncertainties, for example those relating to the realization of assets (collectibility of accounts receivable, ultimate recovery of deferred costs of realizability of inventories or other assets), would not qualify for prior period adjustment treatment, since economic events subsequent to the date of the financial statements must of necessity enter into the elimination of any previously-existing uncertainty. Therefore, the effects of such matters are considered to be elements in the determination of net income for the period in which the uncertainty is eliminated. (See account 439.)

8. Unaudited Items.

Whenever a financial statement is required by the Commission, if it is known that a transaction has occurred which affects the accounts but the amount involved in the transaction and its effect upon the accounts cannot be determined with absolute accuracy, then the amount shall be estimated and such estimated amount included in the proper accounts. The utility is not required to anticipate minor items which would not appreciably affect the accounts.

9. Distribution of Pay and Expenses of Employees.

The charges to utility plant, operating expenses and other accounts for services and expenses of employees engaged in activities chargeable to various accounts, such as construction, maintenance, and operations, shall be based upon the actual time engaged in the respective classes of work, or in case that method is impracticable, upon the basis of a study of the time actually engaged during a representative period.

10. Payroll Distribution.

Underlying accounting data shall be maintained so that the distribution of the cost of labor charged direct to the various accounts will be readily available. Such underlying data shall permit a reasonably accurate distribution to be made of the cost of labor charged initially to clearing accounts so that the total labor cost may be classified between construction, cost of removal, utility operating functions (source of supply, pumping, transmission and distribution, etc.) and nonutility operations.

11. Operating Reserves.

Accretions to operating reserve accounts made by charges to operating expenses shall not exceed a reasonable provision for the expense. Material balances in such reserve accounts shall not be diverted from the purpose for which provided unless the permission of the Commission is first obtained.

12. Records for Each Plant.

Separate records shall be maintained by utility plant accounts of the book cost of each plant owned including additions by the utility to plant leased from others and of the cost of operating and maintaining each plant owned or operated. The term "plant" as here used means each source of supply, each pumping station (small booster stations may be grouped), each water treatment plant and the transmission and distribution system in each city or village, or such other operating area as the Commission may require.

13. Accounting for Other Departments.

If the utility also operates other utility departments, such as electric, gas, etc., it shall keep such accounts for the other departments as may be prescribed by proper authority and in the absence of prescribed accounts, it shall keep such accounts as are proper or necessary to reflect the results of operating each other department.

14. Transactions with Associated Companies.

Each utility shall keep its accounts and records so as to be able to furnish accurately and expeditiously statements of all transactions with associated companies. The statements may be required to show the general nature of the transactions, the amounts involved therein and the amounts included in each account prescribed herein with respect to such transactions. Transactions with associated companies shall be recorded in the appropriate accounts for transactions of the same nature. Nothing herein contained, however, shall be construed as restraining the utility from subdividing accounts for the purposes of recording separately transactions with associated companies.

15. Contingent Assets and Liabilities.

Contingent assets represent a possible source of value to the utility contingent upon the fulfillment of conditions regarded as uncertain. Contingent liabilities include items which may under certain conditions become obligations of the utility but which are neither direct nor assumed liabilities at the date of the balance sheet. The utility shall be prepared to give a complete statement of material contingent assets and liabilities (including cumulative dividends on preference stock) in its annual report and at such other times as may be requested by the Commission.

UTILITY PLANT INSTRUCTIONS

1. Classification of Utility Plant at Effective Date of System of Accounts.

A. The utility plant accounts provided herein are substantially the same in context as those contained in the prior system of accounts, but changes in functional groupings, sequence of accounts, account numbers, and some account titles have been made. Subject to these changes the balances in the various plant accounts, as determined under the prior system of accounts, should be carried forward. Any remaining balance of plant which has not yet been classified, pursuant to the requirements of the prior system, shall be classified in accordance with the following instructions.

B. The cost to the utility of its unclassified plant shall be ascertained by analysis of the utility's records. Adjustments shall not be made to record in utility plant accounts amounts previously charged to operating expenses or to income deductions in accordance with the uniform system of accounts in effect at the time or in accordance with the discretion of management as exercised under a uniform system of accounts, or under accounting practices previously followed.

C. The detail utility plant accounts (301 to 399, inclusive) shall be stated on the basis of cost to the utility of plant constructed by it and the original cost, estimated if not known, of plant acquired as an operating unit or system. The difference between the original cost, as above, and the cost to the utility of utility plant after giving effect to any depreciation or amortization reserves, and contributions in aid of construction applicable to the property acquired if recorded by the accounting utility at the time of acquisition, shall be recorded in account 117, Utility Plant Acquisition Adjustments. The original cost of utility plant shall be determined by analysis of the utility's records or those of predecessor or vendor companies with respect to utility plant previously acquired as operating units or systems and the difference between the original cost so determined, less accumulated provision for depreciation and amortization and contributions in aid of construction recorded by the accounting utility, and the cost to the utility, with necessary adjust-

ments for retirements from date of acquisition, shall be entered in account 117, Utility Plant Acquisition Adjustments. Any difference between the cost of utility plant and its book cost, when not properly includible in other accounts, shall be recorded in account 119, Other Utility Plant Adjustments.

2. Utility Plant to be Recorded at Cost.

A. All amounts included in the accounts for utility plant, acquired as an operating unit or system, shall be stated at the cost incurred by the person who first devoted the property to utility service and all other utility plant shall be included in the accounts at the cost incurred by the utility except as otherwise provided in the texts of the intangible plant accounts. Where the term "cost" is used in the detailed plant accounts, it shall have the meaning stated in this paragraph.

B. When the consideration given for property is other than cash, the value of such consideration shall be determined on a cash basis. In the entry recording such transaction, the actual consideration shall be described with sufficient particularity to identify it. The utility shall be prepared to furnish the Commission the particulars of its determination of the cash value of the consideration if other than cash.

C. When property is purchased under a plan involving deferred payments, no charge shall be made to the utility plant accounts for interest, insurance, or other expenditures occasioned solely by such form of payment.

D. Utility plant contributed to the utility or constructed by it from contributions to it of cash or its equivalent shall be charged to the utility plant accounts at cost of construction, estimated if not known. There shall be credited to the accounts for accumulated depreciation and amortization the estimated amount of depreciation and amortization applicable to the property at the time of its contribution to the utility. The difference between the amounts included in the utility plant accounts and the accumulated depreciation and amortization shall be credited to account 271, Contributions in Aid of Construction.

3. Components of Construction Cost.

The cost of construction properly includible in the utility plant accounts shall include, where applicable, the direct and overhead costs as listed and defined hereunder.

- (1) "Contract work" includes amounts paid for work performed under contract by other companies, firms, or individuals, costs

incident to the award of such contracts, and the inspection of such work.

(2) "Labor" includes the pay and expenses of employees of the utility engaged on construction work, and related workmen's compensation insurance payroll taxes and similar items of expense. It does not include the pay and expenses of employees which are distributed to construction through clearing accounts nor the pay and expenses included in other items hereunder.

(3) "Materials and supplies" includes the purchase price at the point of free delivery plus customs duties, excise taxes, the cost of inspection, loading and transportation, the related stores expenses, and the cost of fabricated materials from the utility's shop. In determining the cost of materials and supplies used for construction, proper allowance shall be made for unused materials and supplies for materials recovered from temporary structures used in performing the work involved, and for discounts allowed and realized in the purchase of materials and supplies.

NOTE.—The cost of individual items of equipment of small value (for example, \$50 or less) or of short life, including small portable tools and implements, shall not be charged to utility plant accounts unless the correctness of the accounting therefore is verified by current inventories. The cost shall be charged to the appropriate operating expense or clearing accounts, according to the use of such items, or, if such items are consumed directly in construction work, the cost shall be included as part of the cost of the construction unit.

(4) "Transportation" includes the cost of transporting employees, materials and supplies, tools, purchased equipment, and other work equipment (when not under own power) to and from points of construction. It includes amounts paid to others as well as the cost of operating the utility's own transportation equipment. (See item 5 following.)

(5) "Special machine service" includes the cost of labor (optional), materials and supplies, depreciation, and other expenses incurred in the maintenance, operation and use of special machines, such as steam shovels, pile drivers, derricks, ditchers, scrapers, material unloaders, and other labor saving machines; also expenditures for rental, maintenance and operation of machines of others. It does not include the cost of small tools and other individual items of small value or short life which are included in the cost of materials and supplies. (See item 3, above.) When a particular construction job requires the use for an extended period of time of special machines, transportation or other equipment, the net book cost thereof, less the appraised or salvage value at time of release from the job, shall be included in the cost of construction.

(6) "Shop service" includes the proportion of the expense of the utility's shop department assignable to construction work except that the cost of fabricated materials from the utility's shop shall be included in "materials and supplies."

(7) "Protection" includes the cost of protecting the utility's property from fire or other casualties and the cost of preventing damages to others, or to the property of others, including payments for discovery or extinguishment of fires, cost of apprehending and prosecuting incendiaries, witness fees in relation thereto, amounts paid to municipalities and others for fire protection, and other analogous items of expenditures in connection with construction work.

(8) "Injuries and damages" includes expenditures or losses in connection with construction work on account of injuries to persons and damages to the property of others; also the cost of investigation of and defense against actions for such injuries and damages. Insurance recovered or recoverable on account of compensation paid for injuries to persons incident to construction shall be credited to the account or accounts to which such compensation is charged. Insurance recovered or recoverable on account of property damages incident to construction shall be credited to the account or accounts charged with the cost of the damages.

(9) "Privileges and permits" includes payments for and expenses incurred in securing temporary privileges, permits or rights in connection with construction work, such as for the use of private or public property, streets, or highways, but it does not include rents, or amounts chargeable as franchises and consents for which see account 302, Franchises and Consents.

(10) "Rents" includes amounts paid for the use of construction quarters and office space occupied by construction forces and amounts properly includible in construction costs for such facilities jointly used.

(11) "Engineering and supervision" includes the portion of the pay and expenses of engineers, surveyors, draftsmen, inspectors, superintendents and their assistants applicable to construction work.

(12) "General administration capitalized" includes the portion of the pay and expenses of the general officers and administrative and general expenses applicable to construction work.

(13) "Engineering services" includes amounts paid to other companies, firms or individuals engaged by the utility to plan, design, prepare estimates, supervise, inspect, or give general advice and assistance in connection with construction work.

(14) "Insurance" includes premiums paid or amounts provided or reserved as self-insurance for the protection against loss and damages in connection with construction, by fire or other casualty, injuries to or death of persons other than employees, damages to property of others, defalcation of employees and agents, and the nonperformance of contractual obligations of others. It does not include workmen's compensation or similar insurance on employees included as "labor" in item 2, above.

(15) "Law expenditures" includes the general law expenditures incurred in connection with construction and the court and legal costs directly related thereto, other than law expenses included in protection, item 7, and in injuries and damages, item 8.

(16) "Taxes" includes taxes on physical property (including land) during the period of construction and other taxes properly includible in construction costs before the facilities become available for service.

(17) "Interest during construction" includes the net cost for the period of construction of borrowed funds used for construction purposes and a reasonable rate on other funds when so used. No interest charges shall be included in these accounts upon expenditures for construction projects which have been abandoned.

NOTE.—When a part only of a plant or project is placed in operation or is completed and ready for service but the construction work as a whole is incomplete, that part of the cost of the property placed in operation, or ready for service, shall be treated as "Utility Plant in Service" and interest thereon as a charge to construction shall cease. Interest on that part of the cost of the plant which is incomplete may be continued as a charge to construction until such time as it is placed in operation or is ready for service, except as limited in item 17, above.

(18) "Earnings and expenses during construction." The earnings and expenses during construction shall constitute a component of construction costs.

(a) The earnings shall include revenues received or earned for water produced by plants during the construction period and sold or used by the utility. Where such water is sold to an independent purchaser before intermingling with water from other plants, the credit shall consist of the selling price of the water. Where the water from a plant under construction is delivered to the utility's water system for distribution and sale, or is delivered to an associated company, or is delivered to and used by the utility for purposes other than distribution and sale (for manufacturing or industrial use, for example), the credit shall be the fair value of the water so delivered. The revenues shall also include rentals for lands, buildings, etc., and miscellaneous receipts not properly includible in other accounts.

(b) The expenses shall consist of the cost of operating the water plant, and other costs incident to the production and delivery of the water for which construction is credited under paragraph (a), above, including the cost of repairs and other expenses of operating and maintaining lands, buildings, and other property, and other miscellaneous and like expenses not properly includible in other accounts.

4. Overhead Construction Costs.

A. All overhead construction costs, such as engineering, supervision, general office salaries and expenses, construction engineering and supervision by others than the accounting utility, law expenses, insurance, injuries and damages, relief and pensions, taxes and interest, shall be charged to particular jobs or units on the basis of the amounts of such overheads reasonably applicable thereto, to the end that each job or unit shall bear its equitable proportion of such costs and that the entire cost of the unit, both direct and overhead, shall be deducted from the plant accounts at the time the property is retired.

B. As far as practicable, the determination of payroll charges includible in construction overheads shall be based on time card distributions thereof. Where this procedure is impractical, special studies shall be made periodically of the time of supervisory employees devoted to construction activities to the end that only such overhead costs as have a definite relation to construction shall be capitalized. The addition to direct construction costs of arbitrary percentages or amounts to cover assumed overhead costs is not permitted.

C. The records supporting the entries for overhead construction costs shall be so kept as to show the total amount of each overhead for each year, the nature and amount of each overhead expenditure charged to each construction work order and to each utility plant account, and the basis of distribution of such costs.

5. Utility Plant Purchased or Sold.

A. When utility plant constituting an operating unit or system is acquired by purchase, merger, consolidation, liquidation, or otherwise, after the effective date of this system of accounts, the cost of acquisition, including expenses incidental thereto properly includible in utility plant, shall be charged to account 102, Utility Plant Purchased or Sold.

B. The accounting for the acquisition, shall then be completed as follows:

(1) The original cost of plant, estimated if not known, shall be

credited to account 102, Utility Plant Purchased or Sold, and concurrently charged to the appropriate utility plant in service accounts and to account 104, Utility Plant Leased to Others, account 105, Property Held For Future Use, and account 107, Construction Work in Progress, as appropriate.

(2) The requirements for accumulated provision for depreciation and amortization applicable to the original cost of the properties purchased, if required by the Commission to be recorded by the accounting utility, determined with due regard to operating practices of the purchaser and his plans regarding such property, and giving consideration also to the effect on such requirements of any rehabilitation expenditures (see paragraph C), shall be charged to account 102, Utility Plant Purchased or Sold, and concurrently credited to the appropriate account for accumulated provision for depreciation or amortization.

(3) The cost to the utility of any property includible in account 121, Nonutility Property, shall be transferred thereto.

(4) The amount of contributions in aid of construction applicable to the property acquired, and which the purchaser may be required to record, shall be charged to account 102, Utility Plant Purchased or Sold, and concurrently credited to account 271, Contributions in Aid of Construction.

(5) The amount remaining in account 102, Utility Plant Purchased or Sold, shall then be closed to account 117, Utility Plant Acquisition Adjustments.

C. If property acquired in the purchase of an operating unit or system is in such physical condition when acquired that it is necessary substantially to rehabilitate it in order to bring the property up to the standards of the utility, the cost of such work, except replacements, shall be accounted for as part of the purchase price of the property.

D. When any property acquired as an operating unit or system includes duplicate or other plant which will be retired by the accounting utility in the reconstruction of the acquired property or its consolidation with previously owned property, the accounting for such property shall be presented to the Commission.

E. In connection with the acquisition of utility plant constituting an operating unit or system, the utility shall procure, if possible, all existing records relating to the property acquired, or certified copies thereof, and shall preserve such records in conformity with regulations or practices governing the preservation of records of its own construction.

F. When utility plant constituting an operating unit or system is sold, conveyed, or transferred to another by sale, merger, consolidation, or otherwise, the book cost of the property sold or transferred to another shall be credited to the appropriate utility plant accounts, including amounts carried in account 117, Utility Plant Acquisition Adjustments. The amounts (estimated if not known) carried with respect thereto in the accounts for accumulated provision for depreciation and amortization and in account 252, Customer Advances for Construction, and account 271, Contributions in Aid of Construction, shall be charged to such accounts and the contra entries made to account 102, Utility Plant Purchased or Sold. Unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, the difference, if any, between (a) the net amount of debits and credits and (b) the consideration received for the property, less commissions and other expenses of making the sale, shall be included in account 411.6, Gains from Disposition of Utility Plant or account 411.7, Losses from Disposition of Utility Plant, as appropriate. (See account 102, Utility Plant Purchased or Sold.)

NOTE A.—Significant gains or losses on sale of property, as determined by the Commission, shall be transferred to account 256, Deferred Gains from Disposition of Property or account 187, Deferred Losses from Disposition of Property and amortized to accounts 411.6, Gains from Disposition of Utility Plant, or 411.7, Losses from Disposition of Utility Plant, as appropriate.

NOTE B.—In cases where existing utilities merge or consolidate because of financial or operating reasons or statutory requirements rather than as a means of transferring title of purchased properties to a new owner, the accounts of the constituent utilities, with the approval of the Commission, may be combined. In the event original cost has not been determined, the resulting utility shall proceed to determine such cost as outlined herein.

6. Expenditures on Leased Property.

A. The cost of substantial initial improvements (including repairs, rearrangements, additions, and betterments) made in the course of preparing for utility service property leased for a period of more than one year, and the cost of subsequent substantial additions, replacements, or betterments to such property, shall be charged to the utility plant account appropriate for the class of property leased. If the service life of the improvements is terminable by action of the lease, then the cost, less net salvage, of the improvements shall be spread over the life of the lease by charges to account 404, Amortization of Limited-Term Utility Plant. However, if the service life is not terminated by action of the lease but by depreciation proper, then the cost of the improvements, less net salvage, shall be accounted for as depreciable plant.

B. If improvements made to property leased for a period of more than one year are of relatively minor cost, or if the lease is for a period

of not more than one year, the cost of the improvements shall be charged to the account in which the rent is included either directly or by amortization thereof.

7. Land and Land Rights.

A. The accounts for land and land rights include the cost of land owned in fee by the utility and rights, interests, and privileges held by the utility in land owned by others, such as leaseholds, easements, water and water power rights, diversion rights, submersion rights, rights of way, and other like interests in land.

B. Where special assessments for public improvements provide for deferred payments, the full amount of the assessments shall be charged to the appropriate land account and the unpaid balance shall be carried in an appropriate liability account. Interest on unpaid balances shall be charged to the appropriate interest account. If any part of the cost of public improvements is included in the general tax levy, the amount thereof shall be charged to the appropriate tax account.

C. The net profit from the sale of timber, cord wood, or other property acquired with rights of way or other lands shall be credited to the appropriate land and land rights or clearing land account. Where land is held for a considerable period of time and timber on the land at the time of purchase increases in value, the net profit (after giving effect to the cost of the timber) from the sales of timber or its products shall be credited to account 421, Miscellaneous Nonoperating Income.

D. Separate entries shall be made for the acquisition, transfer, or retirement of each parcel of land, and each land right (except rights of way for distribution lines), or water rights, having a life of more than one year. A record shall be maintained showing the nature of ownership, full legal description, area, map reference, purpose for which used, city, county, and tax district in which situated, from whom purchased or to whom sold, payment given or received, other costs, contract date and number, date of recording of deed, and book and page of record. Entries transferring or retiring land or land rights shall refer to the original entry recording its acquisition.

E. Any difference between the amount received from the sale of land or land rights, less agent's commissions and other costs incident to the sale, and the book cost of such land or land rights, shall be included in account 411.6, Gains from Disposition of Utility Plant, or account 411.7, Losses from Disposition of Utility Plant, Provided such property is recorded in accounts 101 - 104. If the property being disposed of is

recorded in account 105, Property Held for Future Use, or account 121, Nonutility Property; but had previously been recorded in one of the aforementioned utility plant accounts, gains or losses on its sale shall be credited or charged to account 411.6 or 411.7, as appropriate, otherwise to account 421.1, Gain on Disposition of Property, or account 421.2, Loss on Disposition of Property, unless a reserve therefor has been authorized and provided.

NOTE—Significant gains or losses on sale of property, as determined by the Commission, shall be transferred to account 256, Deferred Gains from Disposition of Property, or account 187, Deferred Losses from Disposition of Property; and amortized to account 411.6, Gains from Disposition of Utility Plant, 411.7, Losses from Disposition of Utility Plant, 421.1, Gain on Disposition of Property or 421.2, Loss on Disposition of Property, as appropriate.

F. The cost of buildings and other improvements (other than public improvements) shall not be included in the land accounts. If at the time of acquisition of any interest in land such interest extends to buildings or other improvements (other than public improvements), which are then devoted to water operations, the land and improvements shall be separately appraised and the cost allocated to land and buildings or improvements on the basis of the appraisals. If the improvements are removed or wrecked without being used in operations, the cost of removing or wrecking shall be charged and the salvage credited to the account in which the cost of the land is recorded.

G. When the purchase of land for utility operations requires the purchase of more land than needed for such purposes, the charge to the specific land account shall be based upon the cost of the land purchased, less the fair market value of that portion of the land which is not to be used in utility operations. The portion of the cost measured by the fair market value of the land not to be used shall be included in account 105, Property Held for Future Use, or account 121, Nonutility Property, as appropriate.

H. Provision shall be made for amortizing amounts carried in the accounts for limited-term interests in land so as to apportion equitably the cost of each interest over the life thereof. (See account 114, Accumulated Provision for Amortization of Utility Plant in Service, and account 404, Amortization of Limited-Term Utility Plant.)

1. The items of cost to be included in the accounts for land and land rights are as follows:

1. Bulkheads, buried, not requiring maintenance or replacement.
2. Cost, first, of acquisition including mortgages and other liens assumed (but not subsequent interest thereon).

3. Clearing (first cost) the land of brush, trees, and debris.
4. Condemnation proceedings, including court and counsel costs.
5. Consents and abutting damages, payment for.
6. Conveyancers' and notaries' fees.
7. Fees, commissions, and salaries to brokers, agents, and others in connection with the acquisition of the land or land rights.
8. Grading the land, except when directly occasioned by the building of a structure.
9. Leases, cost of voiding upon purchase to secure possession of land.
10. Removing, relocating, or reconstructing property of others, such as buildings, highways, railroads, bridges, cemeteries, churches, telephone and power lines, etc., in order to acquire quiet possession.
11. Retaining walls unless identified with structures.
12. Special assessments levied by public authorities for public improvements on the basis of benefits for new roads, new bridges, new sewers, new curbing, new pavements, and other public improvements, but not taxes levied to provide for the maintenance of such improvements.
13. Surveys in connection with the acquisition, but not amounts paid for topographical surveys and maps where such costs are attributable to structures or plant equipment erected or to be erected or installed on such land.
14. Taxes assumed, accrued to date of transfer of title.
15. Title, examining, clearing, insuring, and registering in connection with the acquisition and defending against claims relating to the period prior to the acquisition.
16. Appraisals prior to closing title.
17. Cost of dealing with distributees or legatees residing outside of the state or county, such as recording power of attorney, recording will or exemplification of will, recording satisfaction of state tax.
18. Filing satisfaction of mortgage.
19. Documentary stamps.
20. Photographs of property at acquisition.
21. Fees and expenses incurred in the acquisition of water rights, and grants.
22. Cost of fill to extend bulkhead line over land under water, where riparian rights are held, which is not occasioned by the erection of a structure.
23. Sidewalks and curbs constructed by the utility on public property.
24. Labor and expenses in connection with securing rights of way, where performed by company employees and company agents.

8. Structures and Improvements.

A. The accounts for structures and improvements include the cost of all buildings and facilities to house, support, or safeguard property or