

§ 620.3

12 CFR Ch. VI (1–14 Edition)

also be available for public inspection at each related association's office(s).

(c) The reports sent to shareholders must comply with the requirements of § 620.3 and electronic delivery of those reports requires shareholder agreement.

(d) Information in any part of a report may be incorporated by reference in answer or partial answer to any other item of the report, unless instructions for the report state otherwise.

(f) No disclosure required by subparts B and E of this part shall be deemed to violate any regulation of the Farm Credit Administration.

(g) Each Farm Credit institution shall present its reports in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and in a manner that provides the most meaningful disclosure to shareholders.

(1) Any Farm Credit institution that presents its annual and quarterly financial statements on a combined or consolidated basis shall also include in the report the statement of condition and statement of income of the institution on a stand-alone basis. The stand-alone statements may be in summary form and shall disclose the basis of presentation if different from accounting policies of the combined or consolidated statements.

(2) Any bank that prepares its financial statements on a stand-alone basis shall provide in the footnotes accompanying its annual report supplemental information containing a condensed statement of condition and statement of income for the bank's related associations on a combined basis. The condensed statements may be unaudited and shall disclose the basis of presentation if different from accounting policies of the bank-only statements.

(h)(1) Each institution's annual report or notice must state, in a prominent location within the report or notice:

(i) That the institution's quarterly reports are available free of charge on request;

(ii) The approximate dates the quarterly reports will be available; and

(iii) The telephone numbers and addresses (including information on any other distribution method the institu-

tion makes available) where shareholders can request or obtain copies of the quarterly reports.

(2) Each association must state, in a prominent location within each report:

(i) That the shareholders' investment in the association may be materially affected by the financial condition and results of operations of the related bank;

(ii) That (if not otherwise provided) a copy of the bank's financial reports to shareholders will be made available free of charge on request; and

(iii) The telephone numbers and addresses (including information on any other distribution method the association makes available) where shareholders can request or obtain copies of the related bank's financial reports.

(3) Each institution shall, after receiving a request for a report, provide the report to the requestor. The first copy of the requested report shall be provided to the requestor free of charge.

(i) Any events that have affected one or more related organizations of the reporting institution that are likely to have a material effect on the financial condition, results of operations, cost of funds, or reliability of sources of funds of the reporting institution shall be considered significant events for the reporting institution and shall be disclosed in the reports. Any significant event affecting the reporting institution that occurred during the preceding fiscal quarters that continues to have a material effect on the reporting institution shall be considered significant events of the current fiscal quarter and shall be disclosed in the reports.

[51 FR 8656, Mar. 13, 1986, as amended at 51 FR 21340, June 12, 1986; 56 FR 29421, June 27, 1991; 58 FR 27923, May 12, 1993; 58 FR 48791, Sept. 20, 1993; 62 FR 15092, Mar. 31, 1997; 66 FR 14301, Mar. 12, 2001; 67 FR 16633, Apr. 8, 2002; 71 FR 76119, Dec. 20, 2006; 77 FR 60597, Oct. 3, 2012]

§ 620.3 Accuracy of reports and assessment of internal control over financial reporting.

(a) *Prohibition against incomplete, inaccurate, or misleading disclosures.* No institution and no employee, officer, director, or nominee for director of the institution shall make any disclosure to shareholders or the general public

Farm Credit Administration

§ 620.4

concerning any matter required to be disclosed by this part that is incomplete, inaccurate, or misleading. When any such person makes disclosure that, in the judgment of the Farm Credit Administration, is incomplete, inaccurate, or misleading, whether or not such disclosure is made in disclosure statements required by this part, such institution or person shall make such additional or corrective disclosure as is necessary to provide shareholders and the general public with a full and fair disclosure.

(b) *Signatures.* The name and position title of each person signing the report must be printed beneath his or her signature. If any person required to sign the report has not signed the report, the name and position title of the individual and the reason(s) such individual is unable or refuses to sign must be disclosed in the report. All reports must be dated and signed on behalf of the institution by:

- (1) The chief executive officer (CEO);
- (2) The chief financial officer (CFO), or if the institution has no CFO, the officer responsible for preparing financial reports; and
- (3) A board member formally designated by action of the board to certify reports on behalf of individual board members.

(c) *Certification of financial accuracy.* The report must be certified as financially accurate by the signatories to the report. If any signatory is unable to, or refuses to, certify the report, the institution must disclose the individual's name and position title and the reason(s) such individual is unable or refuses to certify the report. At a minimum, the certification must include a statement that:

- (1) The signatories have reviewed the report,
- (2) The report has been prepared in accordance with all applicable statutory or regulatory requirements, and
- (3) The information is true, accurate, and complete to the best of signatories' knowledge and belief.

(d) *Management assessment of internal control over financial reporting.* Annual reports of those institutions with over \$1 billion in total assets (as of the end of the prior fiscal year) must include a report by management assessing the ef-

fectiveness of the institution's internal control over financial reporting. The assessment must be conducted during the reporting period and be reported to the institution's board of directors. Quarterly and annual reports for those institutions with over \$1 billion in total assets (as of the end of the prior fiscal year) must disclose any material change(s) in the internal control over financial reporting occurring during the reporting period.

[71 FR 76119, Dec. 20, 2006, as amended at 74 FR 28599, June 17, 2009]

Subpart B—Annual Report to Shareholders

§ 620.4 Preparing and providing the annual report.

(a) Each institution of the Farm Credit System must:

(1) Prepare and send to the Farm Credit Administration an electronic copy of its annual report within 75 calendar days of the end of its fiscal year;

(2) Publish a copy of its annual report on its Web site when it sends the report electronically to the Farm Credit Administration;

(3) Provide prior written notification to its shareholders that the institution will publish its annual report on the institution's Web site when the report is sent electronically to the Farm Credit Administration; and

(4) Within 90 calendar days of the end of its fiscal year, prepare and provide to its shareholders an annual report substantively identical to the copy of the report sent to the Farm Credit Administration under paragraph (a)(1) of this section.

(b)(1) A bank must provide its annual report to the shareholders of all related associations if the bank experiences a significant event that has a material effect on those associations.

(2) Any bank that is required by paragraph (b)(1) of this section to provide its annual report must coordinate its distribution with its related associations.

(c) The report must contain, at a minimum, the information required by §§ 620.5 and 620.6. In addition, the report must contain such other information as is necessary to make the required