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(d) Retirement work-in-progress. Based upon the CPA’s determination of materiality, an appropriate sample of transactions must be selected for testing. The CPA’s workpapers must document that he/she:

1. Determined that plant retirements are currently and systematically recorded and priced on the basis of the continuing property records, and determined that costs of removal have been properly accounted for;
2. Explained the method used in computing the cost of units of plant retired if continuing property records have not been established and determined whether costs appeared reasonable; and
3. Determined the manner in which net losses due to retirements were accounted for and traced clearing entries to the depreciation reserve, the plant accounts, and the continuing property records.

(e) Provision for accumulated depreciation. The CPA’s workpapers must include an analysis of transactions. Based upon the CPA’s determination of materiality, an appropriate sample of transactions must be selected for testing. The CPA’s workpapers must document that he/she:

1. Verified the depreciation accruals for the period, including the depreciation base;
2. Reviewed the basis of the depreciation rates, any change in rates and the reason therefor, and, if appropriate, determined whether the rates are in compliance with RUS requirements or with the requirements of the state regulatory body having jurisdiction over the borrower’s depreciation rates;
3. Reviewed salvage and removal costs; and
4. Searched for unrecorded retirements.

(f) Other reserves. The CPA’s workpapers must include an account analysis for all other material plant reserves, such as the reserve for the amortization of plant acquisition adjustments. Based upon the CPA’s determination of materiality, an appropriate sample of transactions must be selected for testing. The CPA’s workpapers must document that appropriate tests of transactions were performed.

(g) Narrative. The CPA must prepare and include in the workpapers a comprehensive narrative on the scope of work performed, observations made, and conclusions reached. Specific matters covered in this narrative must include:

1. The nature of construction and other additions;
2. The control over, and the accuracy of pricing retirements;
3. The accuracy of distributing costs to classified utility plant accounts;
4. An evaluation of the method of:
   i. Capitalizing the direct loadings on labor and material costs;
   ii. Distributing transportation costs and other expense clearing accounts; and
   iii. Capitalizing overhead costs;
5. The tests of depreciation;
6. A review of agreements such as those relating to acquisitions, property sales, and leases which affect the plant accounts; and
7. Notations, if applicable, of RUS approval of property sales and the propriety of the disposition of the proceeds.

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Regulatory assets.

The CPA’s workpapers must document whether all regulatory assets comply with the requirements of SFAS No. 71. For electric borrowers only, the CPA’s workpapers must document whether all regulatory assets have received RUS approval.

[59 FR 660, Jan. 6, 1994]

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Extraordinary retirement losses.

The CPA’s workpapers must contain an analysis of retirement losses, including any required approval by a regulatory commission with jurisdiction in the matter, or RUS, in the absence of commission jurisdiction.

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Clearing accounts.

The CPA’s workpapers must contain an analysis of all clearing accounts. Based upon the CPA’s determination of materiality, an appropriate sample of transactions should be selected for testing. The CPA’s workpapers must document that transactions were reviewed for proper allocation between expense and capital accounts.