





# Utility Accounting: Michigan Practices



August 7, 2009 Roberta Marks, Energy Grants Auditor Management Services Division

## Financial Techniques-Accounting Approaches and Asset Valuation

The scope of Michigan's financial techniques accounting approaches and asset valuation states that for decades the Michigan Public Services Commission (MPSC) has set rates based on the Cost Approach for valuation of public utility assets.

#### **FOR MORE INFO...**

(p.6 MPSC-U-13808) http://www.michigan.gov/mpsc

## Techniques Employed in Asset Valuation

Method Approach

Accrual = plant in service

-depreciation reserve

-estimated future net salvage

1 remaining life

## Models for Predicting Revenue and Investment Requirements for the Utility

Models for predicting revenue and investing requirement for the utility is supported by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).



### Alternative Ways of Meeting Out-Turn Demand

- Competitive Markets
- Base Load Plants
- Increase Transmission Lines
- Environmental Equipment
- Nuclear Power
- Renewable Energy Sources

## Alternative Ways of Meeting Out-Turn Demand

- Investment in Infrastructure
- Smart Grid
- Customer Care
- Customer Billing
- Decoupling Mechanism

## Mechanism to Review Investment Decisions and Establishment of Utility Asset

Mechanisms used to review investment decisions and the establishment of utility asset base would be the value approaches of fair market concept and the income, cost and market approaches.

# Other Key Accounting Issues: Increasing Transparency

Increasing transparency is another key accounting issue being faced by the industry.

### **FOR MORE INFO...**

http://www.aicpa.org

## Review

**Utility Accounting** 

### Citations

- Additional information may be found at the Michigan Public Service Commission website (<a href="http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=14292&submit.x=26&submit.y=14">http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=14292&submit.x=26&submit.y=14</a>).
- US Legal.com. Valuation Law & Legal Definition. Retrieved July 22, 2009 from (<u>definitions.uslegal.com/v/valuation/)</u>.
- Appraisaleconomics.com/machinery.html. Equipment Valuation & Appraisals: Valuing Machinery & Equipment. Retrieved July 22, 2009 from (www.appraisaleconomics.com/machinery.html).
- Wikipedia.org. Business Valuation. Retrieved July 22, 2009 from (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Business\_valuation).
- Wikipedia.org. Cost Approach. Retrieved July 22, 2009 from (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cost\_approach).
- Additional information may be found at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission website (http://www.ferc.gov/).

### Citations...continued

- Sec.gov. Testimony Concerning SEC Oversight: Current State and Agenda, Improving Transparency & Investor Protection. Retrieved July 22, 2009 from (www.sec.gov/news/testimony/2009/ts060209mls.htm)
- The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. AICPA Peer Review Program. Retrieved July 22, 2009 from (http://www.aicpa.org/members/div/practmon/index.htm).
- National Achieves and Records Administration. E-CFR Editorial content. Retrieved July 22, 2009 from (www.gpoaccess.gov/ECFR/).
- <u>UtilitiesProject.com</u> (May 19, 2008). <u>Meeting Future Utility Operating Challenges with a Smart Grid. Retrieved July 22, 2009 from (www.utilitiesproject.com/10818,
  </u>
- <u>www-</u> <u>03.ibm.com/.../meeting\_future\_utility\_operating\_challenges\_with\_a\_s</u> mart\_grid.pdf).

### Citations...continued

- Department of Energy. Chapter 13. Utility Impact Analysis. 13.1
   Retrieved July 22, 2009 from
   (www1.eere.energy.gov/.../pdfs/ch\_13\_small\_motors\_nopr\_tsd.pdf).
- National Grid. Rogers, Chris. Electricity Forecasting Team Leader.
   Retrieved July 26, 2009 from
   (http://www.nationalgrid.com/NR/rdonlyres/BA137403-D6AF-478E-9CC6-7B58FB8CA60C/13482/20061129\_ForecastingWorkshopAB.pdf).
- Technology Review. (July, 2009). Bullis, Kevin. Costly and Unnecessary New Electricity Grid. Retrieved July 26, 2009 from (www.technologyreview.com/energy/22997/).
- Elexon Limited. (2007). P219 Modification Group. Consistency between Forecast and Out-Turn Demand. Retrieved July 26, 2009 from (www.elexon.co.uk/documents/circulars/Change.../CPC00622A.pdf).
- Knowledge.wpcarey. (October 11, 2006). Coming soon from a utility near you: More power to the people. Retrieved July 26, 2009 from (http://knowledge.wpcarey.asu.edu/article.cfm?articleid=1310).

### Citations...continued

 UtilitiesProject.com (May 19, 2008). Meeting Future Utility Operating Challenges with a Smart Grid. Retrieved July 22, 2009 from (www.utilitiesproject.com/10818,

<u>www-</u> 03.ibm.com/.../meeting\_future\_utility\_operating\_challenges\_with\_a\_s mart\_grid.pdf)

- Environment Northeast. How Decoupling Would Work. Retrieved July 22, 2009 from (http://www.env-ne.org/public/resources/pdf/ENE\_Decoupling\_Background\_091807.pdf)
- American Gas Association. (July 2008). Natural Gas Rate Round-Up, Update on Decoupling Mechanisms. Retrieved July 22, 2009 from [Update on Revenue Decoupling Mechanisms (July 2008)]