# **ORIGINAL**

DOCKET NO. 030715-WS

#### CERTIFICATION OF

# PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

## FILED WITH THE

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

I do hereby certify:

- /x/ (1) That all statutory rulemaking requirements of Chapter 120, F.S., have been complied with; and
- /x/ (2) There is no administrative determination under subsection 120.56(2), F.S., pending on any rule covered by this certification; and
- /x/ (3) All rules covered by this certification are filed within the prescribed time limitations of paragraph 120.54(3)(e), F.S. They are filed not less than 28 days after the notice required by paragraph 120.54(3)(a), F.S., and;
- /x/ (a) Are filed not more than 90 days after the notice; or
- // (b) Are filed not more than 90 days after the notice
  not including days an administrative determination was pending;
  or
- // (c) Are filed more than 90 days after the notice, but not less than 21 days nor more than 45 days from the date of publication of the notice of change; or
- \_\_\_\_/ (d) Are filed more than 90 days after the notice, but not less than 14 nor more than 45 days after the adjournment of the final public hearing on the rule; or

AUS \_\_CAF \_\_COMP \_\_CTR \_\_CCR \_\_CCR \_\_COPC \_\_MMS \_\_COPC \_\_MMS \_\_COTH

// (e) Are filed more than 90 days after the notice, but within 21 days after the date of receipt of all material authorized to be submitted at the hearing; or

/\_/ (f) Are filed more than 90 days after the notice, but within 21 days after the date the transcript was received by this agency; or

// (g) Are filed not more than 90 days after the notice, not including days the adoption of the rule was postponed following notification from the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee that an objection to the rule was being considered; or

// (h) Are filed more than 90 days after the notice, but within 21 days after a good faith written proposal for a lower cost regulatory alternative to a proposed rule is submitted which substantially accomplishes the objectives of the law being implemented; or

// (i) Are filed more than 90 days after the notice, but within 21 days after a regulatory alternative is offered by the small business ombudsman.

Attached are the original and two copies of each rule covered by this certification. The rules are hereby adopted by the undersigned agency by and upon their filing with the Department of State.

Rule No.

25-30.140

Under the provision of subparagraph 120.54(3)(e)6., F.S., the rules take effect 20 days from the date filed with the Department of State or a later date as set out below:

Effective:			
	(month)	(day)	(year)

Cha and Carlot

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services

Number of Pages Certified

1 25-30.140 Depreciation. 2 (1) - (d) No change. 3 (e) Average Service Life Depreciation Rate rate based on the expected average service to be experienced 4 5 investment or account in question. A.S.L. Rate - 100% - Average Net Salvage % 6 7 Average Service Life (e) (f) Average Service Life - The period of economic service 8 life that can be reasonably expected from the plant type in 9 question. It is measured by the period of time the subject plant 10 11 and its associated investment is included on the company's books as in service to the public. The average service life will typically 12 be less than the potential physical life due to factors such as 13 14 governmental requirements, growth or adverse operating conditions. Average Service Life Depreciation Rate 15 depreciation rate based on the expected average service to be 16 experienced by the investment or account in question. 17 1.8 A.S.L. Rate = 100% - Average Net Salvage % 19 Average Service Life 20 (g) - (h) No change. 21 (i) Continuing Property Record (CPR) - A perpetual collection of records required by the NARUC Uniform System of Accounts showing 22 23 the detailed original costs, quantities, and locations of plant in service. Generally, a CPR should contain 1) an inventory of 24

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property record units which can be readily checked for proof of

physical existence, 2) the association of costs with such property record units to ensure accurate accounting for retirements, and 3) the dates of installation and removal of plant to provide data for use in connection with depreciation studies.

(i) (i) renumbered to (j) No change.

(k) Depreciation Accounting - The process of charging the book cost of depreciable property, adjusted for net salvage, to operations over the associated useful life.

(1) Depreciation Expense - The periodic charge to expense to allocate the original cost of a depreciable group of assets over the life of those assets.

(m) Depreciable Group - A homogeneous grouping of assets expected to experience similar life and salvage patterns. Unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, depreciable groups are the accounts defined in the NARUC Uniform System of Accounts adopted by Rule 25-30.115.

(n) (j) Function - defined as follows:

Water	Wastewater		
Source of Supply	Collection Plant		
(Accounts 304 to 311, 309 and 339)	(Accounts 354, 355, and 360 to 367 364)		
Pumping Plant	Pumping Plant		
(Accounts 304, 310, 311)	(Accounts 354, <u>355,</u> 370, 371)		
Water Treatment Plant	Treatment & Disposal Plant		
(Accounts 304, 310, 311, 320, and 339)	(Accounts 354 and 380 to 389)		
	Reclaimed Water Treatment Plant		

1	Transmission & Distribution Plant	(Accounts 354, 355, 371, 374, 380, 381,
2		389)
3	(Accounts 304 310, 311, and 330 to 339)	·
4		Reclaimed Water Distribution
5	General Plant	Plant
6	(Accounts 304 and 340 to 348)	(Accounts 354, 355, 366, 367, 371, 375,
7		389)
′		General Plant
8		(Accounts 354 and 390 to 398)

(o) Group Depreciation - An accounting procedure under which depreciation charges are accrued on the basis of the original cost of all property included in each depreciable group. Under the group concept, no attempt is made to keep track of the accumulated provision for depreciation applicable to individual assets of property, in view of the many items making up a utility system. The group approach recognizes that some assets within the group may live longer or shorter than the average life of the group but the group is expected to live the average service life. Every item in the group is assumed to be fully depreciated at retirement.

(p) (k) (k) - (l) renumbered to (p) - (q) No change.

(r) (m) Original Cost - The cost of acquiring an asset and placing it into service for first utility use. This includes the direct costs of acquiring the asset and the cost of labor, materials, and associated costs of installation to prepare the asset for first utility use. The cost is used in the computation of

depreciation expense. In the event that an asset is acquired that is already in public service, the original historic cost of the asset should be recorded in plant in service, and the historic accumulated depreciation should be charged to the accumulated depreciation account. In the event the historic cost of an asset that is already in utility service cannot be determined, an independent engineer's evaluation based on an original cost study may be used. Original Cost—As applied to utility plant, the cost of such property to the person first devoting it to public service.

(s) (n) (n) - (q) renumbered to (s) - (v) No change.

(w)(r) Reserve - The accumulated provision for depreciation. The accumulated depreciation reserve is the net of depreciation accruals (expenses) and retired investment with related gross salvage and cost of removal as well as any appropriate adjustments or transfers.

(x)(s) Reserve Activity Data - Annual depreciation expense, retirements, transfers or adjustments, gross salvage realized, cost of removal, and end of year balance for the accumulated provision for depreciation.

(y) (t) - (u) renumbered to (y) - (z) No change.

(aa) Straight-Line Method - A depreciation method by which the service value of a depreciable group is charged to depreciation expense (or a clearing account) and credited to the accumulated provision for depreciation account through equal annual charges over the service life of the group.

(bb) Unit Depreciation - An accounting procedure under which the original cost, depreciation expense, and accumulated provision for depreciation, and all associated activity are maintained for each individual asset. Service life and salvage parameters are estimated for each individual asset with a depreciation rate designed to recover each asset's original cost over its related life. If the asset lives longer than its expected life, depreciation expense stops accruing when the asset is fully recovered. If the asset retires earlier than its expected service life, the associated unrecovered amount is immediately written-off as a loss.

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(cc) Unrecovered Amount - Original cost less the accumulated provision for depreciation less expected net salvage.

(2) The average service life and salvage components for each class of utility are as follows:

(a) Water System Guideline Average Service Lives

Account Description	Large Utility (Class A & B)	Small Utility (Class C)	Small Utility Function Composite <sup>3</sup>	Net Salvage %4
1. Intangible Plant				
351 Organization	40	<u>40</u>		
352 Franchise Cost	<u>40<sup>5</sup></u>	<u>40</u> <sup>s</sup>		
2.1. Source of Supply			28	
304 ¹Structures & Improvements	321	27		
Wood Frame	28	25		
Masonry	30	27		

1	Reinforced Concrete	40	37	
2	Steel <u>Building(tanks or sheds)</u>	40	35	
3	Tanks or Sheds	<u>25</u> .	20	
4	Fiberglass	20	18	
5	305 Collecting and Impounding Reservoirs	50	40	-
6	306 Lake, River and Other Intakes	40	40	
7	307 Wells and Springs	<del>30</del>	<del>27</del>	
8	Drilled & Cased Well	<u>30</u>	<u>27</u>	
9	(Floridan or Non-Corrosive)		48W T	
	Shallow Well	20	18	·
10	(Sand Aquifer or Corrosive			
11	Water)			
12	308 Infiltration Galleries			
13	and Tunnels	40	N/A	
14	309 Supply Mains	35	32	
15	310 Power Generation Equip.	<u>20</u>	<u>17</u>	
16	311 Pumping Equipment	<u>201</u>	171	
1	Pumping Equip. Electric	<u>20</u>	<u>15</u>	
17	Pumping Equip. Chemical	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	
18	339 Other Miscellaneous Equip.	18	<u>15</u>	
19	2.3. Water Treatment Plant			21
20	2. Pumping Plant			20
21	304 Structures and Improvements (see "Source of Supply" for subcategory lives)	321	271	
22	310 Power Generation Equipment	20	17	
23	311 Pumping Equipment	201	171	
24	Pumping Equipment-Electric	20	15	
25	rumping adarpment breecite	1 = -	T # =	
201				

Electric Pumping Equip.	<del>20</del>	<del>15</del>		
Pumping Equipment-Chemical	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>		
320 Water Treatment Equip.	221 -	171		
Chlorination Equip.	10	7		
Membrane Elements	5	5		
Other Mechanical Equip.	_ 25	20		
339 Other Miscellaneous Equip.	18	<u>15</u>		
3.4. Transmission & Distribution Plant			36	
304 Structures & Improvements (See "Source of Supply" for subcategory lives)	321	271		
310 Power Generation Equip.	20	<u>17</u>		
311 Pumping Equipment	<u>201</u>	<u>17</u> 1		
Pumping Equipment-Electric	20	<u>15</u>		
Pumping Equipment-Chemical	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>		
330 Distribution Reservoirs & Stand Pipes	371	33¹		
Steel Pneumatic Tank	35	30		
Concrete Ground Storage Reservoir	40	37		
331 Transmission & Distribution				
Mains	43¹	38¹		
Galvanized Steel Pipe & Fittings	35	33		
Black Steel Pipe	20	18		
Plastic Pipe²	45	40		
Asbestos - Cement	40	35		
Cast Iron or Ductile Iron	40	35		
Valves & Valve Boxes	25	20		
Fire Mains	33	30		

1		333 Services <sup>2</sup>	40	35	
2		334 Meters and Meter Installation	20	17	
3		335 Hydrants	45 .	40	
4		336 Backflow Prevention Devices	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>	
5		339 Other Plant and Miscellaneous Equipment	25 .	20	
6		4.5. General Plant			
7		304 Structures & Improvements	40¹	35¹	
8		Wood Building	<u>35</u>	<u>30</u>	
9		Reinforced Concrete Bldg.	45	40	
		Masonry Building	40	35	
10		Reinforced Concrete Bldq.	<u>40</u>	<u>37</u>	
11		Wood Building	<del>35</del>	<del>30</del>	
12		Steel Building	40	35	
13		Tanks or Sheds	25	20	
14		340 Office Furniture & Equip.	15	15	
15		Computers	6	6	
16		341 Transportation Equipment	6	6	10
17		342 Stores Equipment	18	N/A	14(com- posite
18					of 342-348)
19		343 Tools, Shop & Garage Equip.	16	15	
20		344 Laboratory Equip.	15	N/A	
		345 Power Operated Equip.	12	10	5
21		346 Communication Equip.	10	N/A	10
22		347 Miscellaneous Equip.	15	N/A	
23		348 Other Tangible Plant	10	10	
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(b) Wastewater System Guideline Average Services Lives

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2		Account Description	Large Utility (Class A & B)	Small Utility (Class C)	Small Utility Function Composite <sup>3</sup>	Net Salvage
3		1. Intangible Plant				
4		351 Organization	40	40		
5		352 Franchise Cost	405	<u>40</u> 5		
6		2.1. Collection System			35	
7		354 Structures & Improvements	321	27¹	-	
8		Above Grade				
9		Wood	28	<u>25</u>		
		Reinforced Concrete Bldg.	<del>38</del>	<del>35</del>		
10		Masonry	30	27	·	
11		Reinforced ConcreteFrame	<u>38</u> <del>28</del>	<u>35</u> <del>25</del>		
12		Steel	25	22		
13		Below Grade				
14		Concrete	35	32		
15		Steel	22	20		
16		Lift Stations	25	22		
		355 Power Generation Equipment	<u>20</u>	17		
17		360 Collection Sewers-Force <sup>2</sup>	30¹	27 <sup>1</sup>		
18		361 Collection Sewers-Gravity <sup>2</sup>	45	40		
19		Manholes	30	27		
20		362 Special Collecting Structures	40	37		
21		363 Services to Customers <sup>2</sup>	38	35		
22		364 Flow Measuring Devices	5	5		
23		365 Flow Measuring Installations	38	35		
		389 Other Miscellaneous Equip.	<u>18</u>	15		
24		3.2. Pumping Plant		<u> </u>	18	<u> </u>
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1	35	54 Structures & Improvements	321	27 <sup>1</sup>	
2	35	55 Power Generating Equipment	<u>20</u>	17	
3	37	70 Receiving Wells	30 .	25	
4		Pumping Equip.	<del>N/A</del>	<del>15</del>	
5	37	71 Pumping Equipment	<u>18</u>	<u>15</u>	·
6	37	71 Pumping Equip.	<del>18</del> .	<del>N/A</del>	
Ì		Pumping Equipment -Electric	<u>18</u>	15	
7		<u>Pumping Equipment - Chemical</u>	7	<u>5</u>	
8	<u>38</u>	89 Other Miscellaneous Equip.	18	15	
9	4.	<del>.3.</del> Treatment and Disposal Plant			18
10	( 5	54 Structures & Improvements see "Collection System" for ubcategory lives)	321	27 <sup>1</sup>	
12	35	55 Power Generating Equipment	<u>20</u>	<u>17</u>	
13	3	71 Pumping Equipment	<u>18¹</u>	15 <sup>1</sup>	
		Pumping Equipment - Electric	18	<u>15</u>	
14		<u> Pumping Equipment - Chemical</u>	7	<u>5</u>	
15	38	80 Treatment & Disposal Equip.	181	15¹	
16		Blowers, Motors, Pumps, Electric Controls	15	12	
17		Chlorination Equipment	10	7	
18		Other Mechanical Equipment	23	18	
19	38	81 Plant Sewers	35	32	
20	38	82 Outfall Sewer Lines	30	30	
21		89 Other Plant and Miscellaneous quipment	18	15	
22	5	. Reclaimed Water Treatment Plant			21
23 24	نک	54 Structures & Improvements see "Collection System" for ubcategory lives)	<u>32¹</u>	<u>27</u> ¹	
25	<u>3</u> !	55 Power Generating Equipment	<u>20</u>	17	

1	371 Pumping Equipment	<u>18¹</u>	<u>15</u> ¹		,	
2	Pumping Equipment-Electric	<u>18</u>	<u>15</u>			
3	Pumping Equipment-Chemical	<u>7</u> .	<u>5</u>			
4	374 Reuse Distribution					
5	Reservoirs	<u>37¹</u>	<u>33</u> 1		-	
6	Steel Pneumatic Tank	<u>35</u>	<u>30</u>			
7	<u>Concrete Ground Storage</u> <u>Reservoir</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>37</u>			
8	380 Treatment & Disposal Equip.	<u>18¹</u>	15¹			
9	Blowers, Motors, Pumps, Electric Controls	<u>15</u>	<u>12</u>			
10	Chlorination Equipment	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>	,		
11	Other Mechanical Equipment	23	<u>18</u>		•	
12	381 Plant Sewers	<u>35</u>	<u>32</u>			
13	389 Other Plant and Miscellaneous Equipment	18	<u>15</u>			
14	6. Reclaimed Water Distribution Plant			<u>36</u>		
15 16	354 Structures & Improvements (see "Collection System" for subcategory lives	321	<u>27</u> 1			
17	355 Power Generating Equipment	<u>20</u>	<u>17</u>			
	366 Reuse Services	40	<u>35</u>			
18 19	367 Reuse Meters and Meter Installation	20	<u>17</u>			
20	371 Pumping Equipment	<u>18¹</u>	15¹			
21	Pumping Equipment-Electric	<u>18</u>	<u>15</u>	1		
1	Pumping Equipment-Chemical	_7	<u>_5</u>			
22	375 Reuse Transmission & Distribution System	431	381			
24	<u>Plastic Pipe</u> <sup>2</sup>	<u>45</u>	40			
25	<u>Valves &amp; Valve Boxes</u>	<u>25</u>	20			

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1	<u>Fire Mains</u>		<u>33</u>	<u>30</u>	
2	389 Other Plant Equipment	and Miscellaneous	18	<u>15</u>	
3	7.4. General Pla	nt			
4	354 Structures &	Improvements	40¹	35¹	
5	Wood Build	ing	35	30	
6	Masonry Bu	ilding	40	35	
7	Reinforced	Concrete Bldg.	45	40	
8	Steel Buil	ding	40	35	
9	Tanks or S	heds	25	20	
	390 Office Furni	ture & Equip.	15	15	
10	Computers		6	6	
11	391 Transportati	on Equipment	6	6	10
12	392 Stores Equip	ment	18	N/A	14(comp- osite of
13					392-398)
14	393 Tools, Shop	& Garage Equip.	16	15	
15	394 Laboratory E	quipment	15	N/A	
16	395 Power Operat	ed Equipment	12	10	5
17	396 Communication	n Equipment	10	N/A	10
	397 Miscellaneou	s Equipment	15	N/A	
18	398 Other Tangib	le Plant	10	10	

(c) For the purposes of paragraphs (2)(a) and (b), the following apply:

1. - 4. No change.

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5. <sup>5</sup>Franchise costs shall be amortized over a period of 40 years unless a specific time period is designated in the utility franchise agreement.

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(3) (a) Average service life depreciation rates based on guideline lives and salvages shall be used in any Commission proceeding in which depreciation rates are addressed, except for those utilities using depreciation rates in accordance with the requirements listed in Subsections (6) and (7) of this rule. Except as listed in Subsections (5) and (6) of this rule average service life depreciation rates based on the guideline lives and salvages shall be used in any proceeding before this Commission that involves the setting of rates. A utility shall also implement the applicable guideline rates for any new plant to be placed in service.

(b) A utility may implement applicable guideline rates without specific approval by the Commission. Guideline rates, if implemented for any account, must be implemented for all accounts. If a utility implements applicable guideline rates outside of a rate proceeding, the utility shall provide written notification to the Director of Economic Regulation within 30 days of such implementation.

- (c) If guideline depreciation rates have been implemented, the rates shall not be changed unless approved by the Commission.
- (4)(a) All Class A and B utilities shall maintain depreciation rates and reserve activity <u>data</u> by account as prescribed by this Commission.
  - (b) No change.

1.8

(5) Computation of depreciation expense. Regulatory book

depreciation expense shall be computed on a monthly basis in 1 conformity with group depreciation accounting procedures. 2  $(6)(a)\frac{(5)(a)}{(5)(a)}$  (5)(a) renumbered to (6)(a) No change. 3 (b) A utility filing for such a revision of depreciation rates 4 shall submit ten copies of the filing to the Director of the 5 Commission Clerk and Administrative Services of the 6 7 Commission Clerk. (c) - 4. No change. 8 (7) (6) (a) A Class A, B, or C utility may apply for guidelines 9 for a proposal for implementation of remaining life depreciation 10 rates if the under the following conditions: 11 (a) A Class A or B utility has maintained both plant activity 12 data by account and accumulated provision for depreciation 13 (reserve) data by account, function or total depreciable plant 14 generally in accord with the Uniform System of Accounts for either 15 at least ten years or since the inception of the utility, whichever 16 is less. 17 (b) A Class C utility has maintained both plant activity data 18 and accumulated provision for depreciation (reserve) data by 19 20 account, function or total depreciable plant generally in accord with the Uniform System of Accounts for either at least ten years 21 22 or since the inception of the utility, whichever is less. (b) (c) (c) renumbered to (g) No change. 23 (8) (7) (7) renumbered to (8) No change. 24 (9) (a) Beginning with the year ending December 31, 2003, all 25

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Class A and B utilities shall maintain separate sub-accounts for:

(1) each type of Contributions-in-Aid-of-Construction (CIAC) charge collected including, but not limited to, plant capacity, meter installation, main extension or system capacity; (2) contributed plant; (3) contributed lines; and (4) other contributed plant not mentioned previously. Establishing balances for each new sub-account may require an allocation based upon historical balances.

Each CIAC sub-account shall be amortized in the same manner that the related contributed plant is depreciated. Separate sub-accounts for accumulated amortization of CIAC shall be maintained to correspond to each sub-account for CIAC.

(b) Beginning with the year ending December 31, 2003, for Class C utilities, where adequate CIAC records are maintained in sub-accounts, by type of charge or contributed plant, CIAC amortization rates shall be applied separately to each sub-account. Where CIAC records are not kept by sub-account, a composite depreciation rate for total plant, excluding general plant, shall be applied to the entire CIAC account.

(c) Any composite rate used shall be recalculated each year based on the applicable plant balances and depreciation rates.

(8) (a) Contributions in Aid of Construction - Adequate records to account for CIAC must be maintained by the utility. Where adequate records separating CIAC from utility investments are maintained by account, depreciation rates shall be applied separately to contributed and non-contributed plant with the

resulting amortization of contributed plant not considered an expense for ratemaking purposes. Where CIAC records are not kept by account, the depreciation rates shall be applied to the entire depreciable plant. The CIAC plant shall then be amortized either by account, function or bottom line depending on availability of supporting information. The amortization rate shall be that of the appropriate account or function where supporting documentation is available to identify the account or function of the related CIAC plant. Otherwise, the composite plant amortization rate shall be used. The depreciation expense then is the net of depreciation expense for total plant less the amortization of CIAC plant. The non-CIAC depreciation reserve is the net of depreciation reserve for total plant less the accumulated amortization of CIAC plant. Specific Authority: 350.127(2), 367.121(1), F.S. Law Implemented: 350.115, 367.081(1)(2), 367.121(1), F.S. History: New 3/22/84, Formerly 25-10.32, 25-10.032, Amended 11/9/86, 5/8/88, 11/21/95, ...................................

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#### SUMMARY OF RULE

Definitions are added to clarify the meaning of terms that are used to analyze depreciation in order to assure both capital recovery and reasonable rates. New accounts are added to provide for depreciation of investment in new types of equipment and to bring the list of accounts into accord with the current NARUC Uniform System of Accounts (USOA) that Rule 25-30.115 requires the utilities to follow. Specific directions for computing depreciation expense are included to clearly show the appropriate method for calculating depreciation expense for a monthly period.

#### SUMMARY OF HEARINGS ON THE RULE

No hearing was requested and none was held.

# FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES JUSTIFYING THE RULE

The addition of new accounts is in response to the revised NARUC Uniform Systems of Accounts. Effective January 1, 1998, Rule 25-30.115 required companies operating in Florida [under the jurisdiction of the Commission] to maintain their accounts and records in conformity with the 1996 USOA adopted by NARUC.

Originally, the rule was intended to require water and wastewater companies to use group depreciation methodology, as do other regulated utilities under Florida jurisdiction. Clarification of the requirement is needed for uniform implementation. New accounts are added to provide for depreciation of investment in new types of equipment.