Public Utility Accounting

Recommended CEUs 1.3/PDHs 13/CPEs 15 Field of Study: Accounting

Day 1

8:30 a.m. Section One

- Course Introduction and Objectives
- Chapter One Introduction of Uniform System of Accounts
- Incorporating FERC into Utility Chart of Accounts

10:00 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. Section Two

- Chapter Two Accounting Information for Public Power Systems
- Accounting Requirements
- Users of Accounting Information

Noon Lunch (on your own)

1:30 p.m. Section Three

- Chapter Three FERC USOA: Instructions
- Definitions
- General Instructions
- Electric Plant Instructions
- Operating Expense Instructions

2:30 p.m. Break

2:45 p.m. Section Four

• Balance Sheet Accounts

5:00 p.m. Adjourn for the Day

Day 2

8:00 a.m. Section Five

- Chapter Five Income Statement Accounts
- Revenue and Expense Classifications
- Operating Income
- Other Income Statement Items

10:00 a.m. Break

10:15 a.m. Sections Five and Six

- Chapter Five Other Income Statement Items
- Chapter Six Introduction to Accounting Applications
- Allocations of Indirect Costs

Noon Lunch (on your own)

1:00 p.m. Section Seven

- Chapter Seven Introduction to Accounting for Utility Property
- Work Order System
- Continuing Plant Inventory

2:30 p.m. Break

2:45 p.m. Sections Eight and Seven

- Chapter Seven Depreciation Accounting
- Chapter Eight Basic Rate Design and Funding Concepts
- Base Rates
- Fuel Adjustment or Power Cost Adjustment Charges
- Funding PILOT and Transfers

4:00 p.m. Course Adjourns

Learning Outcomes

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Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to successfully:

- 1. Correctly explain the structure and usage of the Code of Federal Regulations and the FERC Uniform System of Accounts.
- 2. Define the accountant's role as a service provider to internal and external customers and describe how those customers use the data provided.
- 3. Correctly identify the sources of GAAP and where to research questions.
- 4. Successfully identify the key elements of a plant accounting system.
- 5. Accurately differentiate between capital vs. operating vs. maintenance expenses.
- 6. Successfully identify the difference between regulatory and unregulated accounting procedures.
- 7. Define the key concepts, approaches and mechanisms associated with utility rate design and other funding methods.

About the Instructor

Jerry McKenzie

Jerry McKenzie is a Senior Manager with the MGT Consulting Group and the author of the Public Utility Accounting instructional manual, as well as APPA's publications entitled "Unbundling Electric Distribution-Related Services" and "Costing Electricity Generation in a Competitive Environment: Principles & Procedures." He has an extensive 35+ year background in cost accounting concepts and practical applications. Having worked in both the private electric utility sector and the municipally owned environment, Jerry brings a broad, and somewhat unique perspective to this course. He has extensive knowledge of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) statutes and regulations and has taught on a variety of subjects dealing with Public Utility Accounting.