

Study on Frontier Development of Environmental Accounting Information Disclosure in China Coal Industry

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Abstract

This paper analyzes the status quo of environmental accounting information disclosure of listed companies in China's coal industry, and summarizes the development trend and the latest and forefront research trends in the field of environmental accounting information disclosure in China. After tracking the research results of information disclosure in different industries in recent years, this paper puts forward several suggestions on improvement of information disclosure of environmental accounting in the coal industry from the inside and outside of the company, hoping that the coal enterprises will be better and more adequate in the current environment Disclosure of environmental accounting information.

Keywords

Environmental accounting; frontier development; countermeasures and suggestions.

1. Introduction

Environmental accounting information disclosure is the final result of environmental accounting, but also the most important part of environmental accounting system. Disclosure of environmental accounting information, revealing the utilization of environmental resources and the governance of environmental pollution are necessary requirements for the management of harsh environmental issues. At present, China has not formulated any special guidelines on environmental disclosure. The current accounting system for business enterprises does not have a high proportion of disclosure of corporate environmental information. Therefore, measures must be taken to improve the disclosure of environmental information. At present, the state is deepening supply-side structural reforms and the coal industry has entered an era of regulation and control of the entire industry. Coal prices have begun to return rationally. Most coal enterprises in China are located in the northern part of western part of Shanxi Province, Shaanxi Province and Inner Mongolia. However, the state supports the construction of infrastructure and people's livelihood in the western region, supports the industrial transfer in the eastern region and accelerates the economic belt of the Silk Road. All this gives coal enterprises The road of reform and development has brought about new opportunities, fully aware of the importance of ecological civilization, and presented the green China and the beautiful China to the world.

2. The status of the coal industry environmental accounting information disclosure

2.1 The way of disclosure

The environmental accounting information disclosure of the listed companies in the coal industry is mainly concentrated in the social responsibility reports and the notes of the statements. The important accounting report, the chairman's report, the corporate governance structure and the report of the board of supervisors will also be referred to the enterprise's environmental accounting information. The disclosure of environmental accounting information in the notes to the financial statements is mainly

based on quantitative information such as "special investment in environmental protection", "environmental protection expenditures such as sewage charges and afforestation fees," "government grants related to environmental protection, financial subsidies and tax credits" Etc. In the report of the board of directors, the disclosure of environmental accounting information mainly focuses on "management discussion and analysis", "prospect for the future development of the company" and "daily work of the board of directors", mainly focusing on the regulations and policies of the enterprise on environmental protection, Environmental protection measures, the concept of environmental protection and environmental protection goals and corporate social responsibility to fulfill the information.

2.2 Disclosure content.

Environmental accounting information is divided into two categories. One is the financial information of the environmental activities of the enterprise. The main content is the impact of the environmental activities of the enterprises on the financial status and operating results, and quantitative information in the form of currency. The other is non-financial information on corporate environmental activities. Non-financial information is mainly non-monetary information and recordable text description, non-monetary information is not measured in currency information, such as pollutant name, emissions, emissions, energy consumption per unit; log text is written, Charts and other means of expression of enterprises in a certain period of environmental policy, objectives, and achieved environmental achievements and performance. As with most heavily polluting industries, coal enterprises disclose information about environmental accounting mainly from four aspects, including environmental management, energy conservation and emission reduction, and circular economy, in a combination of financial information and non-financial information As far as environmental investment is concerned, most listed coal companies will be inclined to disclose positive environmental information.

3. the coal industry environmental accounting information disclosure problems

3.1 The degree of disclosure is not enough

During the process of collecting environmental accounting information index, the annual report of each listed coal company is reviewed and found that fewer enterprises can disclose detailed environmental accounting information. At the same time, the forms, contents, quantities, There is a big difference in quality. Enterprises most of the disclosure of environmental accounting information in mere formality, and can not meet the actual needs of accounting information users. Most enterprises did not disclose the amount of wastes discharged during the accounting period. Some only explained the pollutant emission targets set by the state and did not clearly disclose whether the national emission standards were met or not. The information was rather vague. The company prefers to choose disclosure of accounting information that is easy to account for, such as afforestation fees, environmental subsidies and fines and environmental protection projects under construction. However, for the majority of investors, it is not possible to make a more comprehensive assessment of the overall environmental protection and overall operation of the coal industry through the environmental investment, environmental protection and environmental protection benefits disclosed by the enterprises.

3.2 Of the environmental accounting theory and practice of coal enterprises is not perfect

The peculiarity of the coal production process coupled with the new field of environmental accounting makes it difficult to implement the project. Environmental accounting theory and practice of the operation flow is not perfect, the theory and practice of environmental accounting deficiencies mainly in the following areas:

3.2.1 Environmental accounting elements are not unified classification. Due to the current accounting standards on assets, liabilities and other factors

There are three kinds of factors, namely environmental assets, environmental costs and environmental liabilities, the four elements theory that the environmental investment, costs, equity, Efficiency and six

elements theory namely environmental assets, environmental liabilities, environmental rights and interests, environmental benefits, environmental costs and environmental profits.

3.2.2 subjects set unreasonable.

Environmental accounting is both traditional financial accounting, but different from the traditional financial accounting, subject setting should be different, but most of the current introduction of environmental accounting of coal, still use the conventional accounting subjects, the traditional accounting subjects do not make adjustments and increases, Without increasing the environmental assets, environmental liabilities, environmental income tax and other subjects, so it will introduce environmental accounting, non-existent.

3.2.3 Accounting and measurement methods are not perfect.

As the main unit of accounting measurement, currency is not entirely suitable in environmental accounting of coal enterprises because the production characteristics, environmental resources and environmental loss of coal enterprises are difficult to measure in monetary terms. Therefore, providing environmental accounting system to coal enterprises Measurement measurement, must adopt different measurement methods, mainly market value method and replacement cost method, but these measurement methods are also very prominent drawbacks, prone to errors and omissions, or even impossible to measure and other issues, resulting in corporate assets and liabilities are underestimated, It is difficult to confirm the environmental assets, environmental liabilities and environmental costs of coal enterprises.

3.3 The content of information disclosed is not comprehensive

For environmental assets, the disclosure of environmental liabilities is small. For coal enterprises, the mineral resources they own can be divided into the categories of environmental assets, and the high value of mineral resources, accounting for the high proportion of assets, is the basis and premise of production and operation of enterprises. Coal reserves and quality of resources for coal companies has an important role, first of all, whether coal resources adequately reflect the development potential of enterprises, mining capacity reflects the enterprise's profitability of production, specifically, through resources can be precocious Reserves, comprehensive recovery rate and other related indicators to reflect.

Tend to disclose favorable information. Coal production process will produce gangue, waste water and other pollutants, coal mining will cause surface subsidence, coal enterprises for environmental pollution and destruction is obvious. However, through the above analysis of the disclosed contents, we can see that the disclosure of most enterprises lacks substantive content. For example, in the process of coal production and selection, the "pollutants and emissions are all controlled by the enterprises", and the pollutant types, emissions and Governance standards and other content are not mentioned.

3.4 The lack of professional environmental accounting staffing

Although it belongs to the field of accounting, environmental accounting has been integrated into other disciplines, involving many new types of business. There are many uncertainties that require accountants to have a very high overall quality, professional judgment and high business Technical level. However, at present, the mode of personnel training in accounting is relatively simple, the gap between theoretical knowledge and practice is large, and the continuing education and training of financial staff are not enough, resulting in weaker accounting professionals' transborder ability and unfavorable accounting of environmental accounting At present, China's environmental accounting information disclosure exist common problems, the coal industry also exists.

4. China's coal industry environmental accounting information disclosure innovative countermeasures

The impact of the coal industry on the environment should not be underestimated. It is not difficult to see through the analysis that it is of great significance to strengthen the disclosure of environmental accounting information of the listed companies in the coal industry. According to the research on the status quo of environmental accounting information disclosure of listed companies in the coal industry, The level of disclosure needs to be improved, and there are some problems. Therefore, in order to improve the level of disclosure of environmental information, suggestions on environmental information disclosure are provided both inside and outside the enterprise.

4.1 The company itself

Listed companies in the coal industry can look for problems in their own right and take measures to improve their environmental accounting information disclosure level from the following aspects

4.1.1 Since the reform and opening up of the internal environmental regulatory departments and the internal environmental regulatory departments, the socialist market economy has been developing continuously.

The number of listed companies has gradually increased, and the internal agencies have also been improved. However, many internal departments have not given full play to their actual level and are ineffective. Therefore, enterprises must attach importance to their internal departments so that they can exert their due supervision and management functions. In addition, while attaching importance to the existing regulatory departments within the enterprise, the enterprise should also set up a special environmental regulatory department to monitor its own efforts on energy saving and emission reduction, environmental protection investment, information disclosure and other environmental protection related issues Measures. The internal supervision of enterprises to strengthen the level of environmental information disclosure has a stronger role in improving.

4.1.2 Enterprises should be fully aware of their own financial position, profitability and cash ability levels have an impact on environmental information disclosure.

Enterprises in the daily business process should pay attention to the ability of the situation, with a sound financial system, excellent financial Personnel to carry out accounting records, the company's operational capacity, profitability, debt ability and cash and environmental accounting information disclosure are complementary, the establishment of enterprises to establish a good corporate image, fulfill social responsibility, to obtain the trust of investors, should try to do a good job Financial work.

4.1.3 The characteristics of environmental accounting, the production characteristics of coal enterprises require accounting personnel must have a solid foundation of comprehensive knowledge and professional skills.

Coal enterprises should increase financial support, the existing accounting staff multi-channel, multi-channel, all-round comprehensive knowledge training to improve the accounting skills of all personnel; through training to change the concept and attitude of financial staff and deepen the accounting staff Understanding of the importance of environmental accounting

4.1.4 Improve the environmental accounting system and consolidate the cornerstone of environmental accounting.

To unify environmental accounting objects, we must correctly distinguish between recyclable resources and non-recyclable resources, properly determine the value of natural resources depleted, and internalize external costs, including: environmental pollution losses, natural resources in the process of environmental resource utilization Consumption, make up and so on, enterprises to improve the resources and the proceeds of the environment; determine the environmental accounting elements in the accounting for the introduction of environmental accounting accounting study of coal enterprises, and ultimately identified as the six elements of accounting theory, namely environmental assets, environmental liabilities, environmental rights and interests, environmental Income, environmental

costs and environmental profits. These accounting elements compared with the traditional accounting elements, both similarities and differences; adjustment of environmental accounting subjects.

4.2 External pressure

The level of corporate environmental accounting information disclosure is affected by external pressure. Enterprises through the production and business activities affect the public, the external public through this process also has an impact on enterprises, enterprises and the external public exist coexistence and mutual influence. The survival and development of enterprises depend on their response to the external public, such as the government, investors and so on. In short, giving full play to the external public's supervision is one of the effective ways to improve the disclosure level of corporate environmental information. From the following aspects:

The government strengthens the formulation and improvement of environmental protection laws, especially for the disclosure of environmental accounting information, promulgates a special legal system to force enterprises to disclose that the government should speed up the development of detailed and accurate environmental information disclosure guidelines with more detailed and accurate. At the same time, enterprises should be forced to disclose independent reports related to the environment, intensify punishment and punishments for environmental pollution and sabotage, and take different incentives and rewards and punishments for different enterprises according to industries and pollution levels. On the other hand, specialties should be set up. Of the audit department, the company disclosed the audit report.

The external media reports on enterprises and the audit reports issued by the firm are of crucial importance to the enterprise. The disclosure level of corporate environmental accounting information is affected by external pressure. The enterprise also affects the public through production and business activities, and the public through this. A process of business impact, business and social public exist coexist with each other, influence each other. In short, giving full play to the role of the public supervision is one of the most effective ways for enterprises to disclose disclosure information.

5. Conclusion

During the implementation of environmental accounting, coal enterprises can learn from the successful experiences of Japan, the United States and other countries. In China, large-scale coal enterprises are encouraged to take the lead in pilot implementation of environmental accounting. After successful pilot projects, other coal enterprises are gradually implemented in the form of guidelines. The introduction of environmental accounting in coal enterprises only took a small step toward success. In the process of application, there are still many problems to be solved urgently. The state attaches importance to the strategic importance of environmental protection and the promulgation of a number of policies to provide environmental accounting information disclosure. Policy environment is the innate advantage of the promotion. In the field of environmental accounting, the theory and practice are combined to constantly look for a breakthrough in the issue and put forward operational suggestions and suggestions so that environmental accounting can better serve the coal industry.

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