

# Research on the Current Situation of Environmental Accounting Information Disclosure in Chemical Listed Companies

## -- Take Huifeng Co., Ltd. as an Example

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### Abstract

The chemical industry occupies an important position in my country's national economy. It is one of my country's basic industries and pillar industries. It is also an indispensable and important part of my country's national economy. Its development is a sustainable development path for my country's economic development, Social development has important practical significance. However, in the production process of the chemical industry, waste gas and pollutants are inevitably generated. Most of these wastes are harmful above a certain concentration, and some are highly toxic substances, which will cause pollution if they enter the environment. Under this circumstance, the information disclosure of environmental accounting has been paid more and more attention by the general public, but due to the short development time of environmental accounting information disclosure in my country, most chemical companies are in the process of disclosing environmental accounting information. There are still many non-standard and unclear problems. Therefore, starting from the basic principles of environmental accounting information disclosure, this paper takes Huifeng Co., Ltd. as an example to analyze the problems existing in the company's environmental accounting information disclosure, and aims at the company's environmental accounting information disclosure. Suggestions are given on the disclosure of environmental accounting information, with the purpose of improving the disclosure status of environmental accounting information in chemical industry companies in my country.

### Keywords

Environment; Information; Disclosure; Chemical.

## 1. Introduction

As my country continues to promote the construction of ecological civilization, it is imperative to establish a sound ecological economic system for green, low-carbon and circular development, and the pollution caused by the chemical industry runs counter to my country's concept of green and low-carbon development. Therefore, the chemical industry The company must change the past practice of pursuing economic benefits and ignoring the harm of chemical pollutants to the environment, establish a sustainable, green and low-carbon development concept, further improve the company's own sense of social responsibility, and finally establish a complete environmental accounting information The disclosure system, on this basis, can help enterprises to formulate reasonable development plans, thereby driving the social economy to truly achieve sustainable development, and ultimately achieve effective governance of the national environment.

## **2. Research Background and Significance**

### **2.1. Background**

Since the reform and opening up, my country's social economy has entered a stage of rapid development, and the total social wealth has increased rapidly, but at the same time, the contradiction between environmental pollution and pollution prevention and control has become more prominent, and it is imperative to achieve a balance between economic development and environmental pollution prevention. According to the latest "China Ecological Environment Bulletin" recently released by the Ministry of Ecology and Environment, in 2021, among the 339 prefecture-level cities and above in China, 121 cities will have air quality exceeding the standard, accounting for 35.7%, and the form of air pollution will remain unchanged. Severe, in 2021, the national surface water monitoring data shows that the main pollution indicators of my country's surface water are chemical oxygen demand, permanganate index and total phosphorus. In the process of production and development of chemical enterprises, a series of environmental protection problems will inevitably arise, and it is imperative to strengthen environmental protection supervision of chemical enterprises.

### **2.2. Significance of the Topic**

First, the implementation of environmental information accounting disclosure is conducive to the overall management of the country. The disclosure of environmental information can reflect the current situation of the environment in our society. State agencies can make more reasonable decisions on the basis of fully grasping this information, so as to achieve more effective governance of my country's environment. At the same time, the national level should strengthen environmental accounting The supervision of information is beneficial to the strategic planning of my country's sustainable development. From the national level, enterprises are strictly required to change their development models, thereby accelerating the transformation of enterprises and optimizing the industrial structure.

Secondly, the implementation of the disclosure of environmental accounting information is conducive to accelerating the transformation and development of enterprises and guiding the internal decision-making of enterprises. The disclosure process of environmental accounting information is a process for enterprises to conduct self-examination. Through the disclosure of environmental accounting information, enterprises can recognize the environmental protection problems that enterprises are currently facing, and then achieve more effective management within the enterprise, thereby reducing the harm to the environment, and finally. Realize the overall improvement of enterprise economic benefits, corporate image and environmental benefits.

### **2.3. Basic Principles of Environmental Accounting Information Disclosure**

The principle of importance: In the process of environmental accounting information disclosure, it is necessary to focus on the main subject of environmental information disclosure of Chinese enterprises—listed companies. Listed companies are mainly large and medium-sized enterprises, and occupy an important position in my country's industrial system, such as chemical industry, petroleum, machinery and metallurgy, etc. However, when actually implementing environmental accounting information disclosure, a large number of enterprises only report the relevant information to the relevant competent authorities. Or only carry out internal corporate reports and fail to announce to the public. As the country pays more and more attention to environmental protection issues, more and more attention will be paid to the disclosure of environmental accounting information for listed companies, that is, listed companies will become more and more prominent as the main subject of environmental accounting information disclosure in my country.

**Mandatory principle:** In order to achieve development goals, the company must carry out production and operation activities. For some heavily polluting industries, such as chemical industry, metallurgy and papermaking, it is difficult to avoid certain damage to the environment during the production process. According to the basic principle of "whoever benefits, who should be responsible", enterprises must be forced to take certain responsibilities for this, but enterprises will not take the initiative to take responsibility and are more reluctant to increase expenditures because of this. Therefore, environmental protection departments and government departments must disclose environmental accounting information of enterprises. Mandatory requirements, but also should guide and encourage enterprises to better disclose environmental accounting information.

**Principle of Consistency:** Environmental issues are unavoidable problems in the development of human society. Whether it is a state-owned enterprise or a private enterprise, domestic or foreign investment, as long as it involves pollution problems, they should actively disclose relevant information, and relevant departments should treat all enterprises equally and require Be consistent and avoid favoritism and discrimination.

## **2.4. The Main Methods of Environmental Accounting Information Disclosure of Huifeng Co., Ltd**

**Annual report.** The company separately reflects "environmental and social responsibility" in its annual report, specifying the names, discharge methods, number of discharge outlets, and status of discharge outlets of the listed company and its subsidiaries' main pollutants and characteristic pollutants. In addition, the report also includes the construction and operation of the company's pollution prevention and control facilities, such as the establishment of the "Environmental Monitoring Management System", "Wastewater Discharge Management System", "Exhaust Gas Management System", "Solid Waste Management System", "Environmental Equipment, Facility Inspection, Repair and Maintenance Management System", "Wastewater Inspection Management System" and other related management systems, as well as emergency plans for environmental pollution accidents, set up a special environmental management organization, and obtained a pollutant discharge permit in accordance with the law.

**Company news announcement.** Huifeng Co., Ltd. publishes relevant environmental impact reports and public participation announcements, groundwater self-monitoring report conclusion announcements, and environmental protection commissioning announcements through its official website, and publishes environmental protection data to relevant departments and the society through the above methods.

## **2.5. Problems Existing in Huifeng's Environmental Accounting Information Disclosure**

### **2.5.1. Concealment and Distortion of Environmental Information**

According to the relevant environmental accounting information disclosed by Huifeng Co., Ltd., first of all, in terms of system formulation, the company has established a relatively complete environmental protection management system, such as "Environmental Monitoring Management System", "Wastewater Discharge Management System", etc. It has established a pollution accident treatment plan and set up an environmental management organization; secondly, in terms of sewage treatment, the company adopts the principle of quality-based collection and quality-based treatment, and claims that the treated sewage has reached the wastewater discharge standard; thirdly, in In terms of waste gas treatment, a combination of conventional treatment and enhanced treatment has been adopted, and it is claimed that the emission of waste gas is stable and up to standard. However, in the actual daily production process, the company has secretly buried underground pipes and secretly discharged a large

number of toxic and harmful pollutants for a long time. In addition, the company also ignored leakage prevention measures during normal sewage work, and randomly stacked waste gas and waste, etc. The above-mentioned environmental violations are seriously inconsistent with the company's disclosures, and there are problems that the disclosures are deliberately concealed and untrue.

### **2.5.2. Irregular and Untimely Disclosure of Environmental Accounting Information**

According to the annual report of Huifeng Co., Ltd., when the company discloses environmental information, it simply gives whether the company's pollutant discharge meets the standards, but the validity and authenticity of the results have yet to be tested, that is, the disclosure process lacks effective audit; In addition, when it comes to the disclosure of relevant pollutants, by checking the company's disclosure time, it is found that Huifeng Co., Ltd. obviously delays and lags in releasing the relevant information, and there are even situations where it is not disclosed without supervision.

### **2.5.3. Disclosure of Environmental Information is Confusing**

Huifeng Co., Ltd. began to conduct relevant environmental information ten years ago. In the first five years of this period, the company focused on the implementation of various environmental protection measures, which was an emphasis on the process. In the last five years, the company Gradually begin to disclose specific indicators of pollutants such as emission methods and emission concentrations. There is a huge difference between the two disclosure methods before and after, which fully reflects that Huifeng Co., Ltd. is more arbitrary in the disclosure of environmental protection information, and there are problems such as vague standards and inconsistent standards, which will inevitably lead to certain misleading effects. , which affects decision-making.

## **3. Reasons for the Disclosure of Environmental Accounting Information of Huifeng**

### **3.1. Lack of Systematic Disclosure System Within the Company**

Effective environmental accounting information must rely on a sound disclosure system. However, as far as the current status of Huifeng Co., Ltd. is concerned, the company still lacks a mature environmental accounting information disclosure system. The mentality of evading punishment from relevant departments is even more lacking in the awareness of the standardization of environmental accounting information disclosure system. As my country's government departments and all sectors of society pay more and more attention to environmental protection issues, real and complete environmental protection information is increasingly valued by investors. Therefore, real and complete environmental accounting disclosure information will be very beneficial to the development of the company.

### **3.2. Lack of Supervision by Regulatory Authorities**

As far as the current situation is concerned, my country's regulatory authorities have certain blind spots in the supervision of the environmental accounting information disclosure of listed companies. First, the main supervision tasks are completed by the China Securities Regulatory Commission, and the number of listed companies is very large, which directly leads to the uncontrollable and poor supervision of the supervision department; secondly, the supervision method of the supervision department is mainly based on punishment, and the direct economic punishment is Indicators do not cure the root cause, and cannot guide the company to establish a good environmental information disclosure mechanism from the root. The deeper problem reflected by this is the lack of supervision by the supervision department.

### **3.3. Lack of Corporate Environmental Awareness**

At present, there are no absolute mandatory measures to restrain the behavior of enterprises regarding the disclosure of environmental accounting information. Therefore, Huifeng Co., Ltd. lacks the motivation to actively fulfill its environmental protection obligations. In addition, negative environmental protection information damages the company's positive image and is not conducive to attracting investment. These two factors aggravate the issue of Huifeng's environmental protection information disclosure.

## **4. Suggestions on Improving the Quality of Environmental Information of Huifeng Co., Ltd.**

### **4.1. Establish a Standardized Environmental Accounting Information Disclosure System**

First of all, top-level design should be done at the national level, legal provisions on environmental accounting information disclosure should be established from the perspective of legislation, and the penalty system should be clearly defined; secondly, daily supervision should be done at the social level, and the environmental accounting information should be established from the perspective of social governance. Daily supervision system; finally, do a good job in internal management at the company level, clarify the rules and regulations related to environmental accounting information disclosure from the company, and then establish environmental protection awareness and responsibility awareness.

### **4.2. Improve Corporate Awareness of Environmental Protection**

With the transformation of my country's economic development goals from high-speed development to high-quality development, the era of traditionally relying on economic benefits to determine success or failure has passed, and current environmental protection issues are increasingly attracting attention from all walks of life in my country. If Huifeng listed companies want to achieve long-term success Interest and long-term development, it is necessary to strengthen the construction of environmental protection awareness, so that the company and the society can keep "in step", truly implement environmental protection responsibilities, and truly enhance environmental protection awareness, so as to help the company absorb funds better and better, and boost the company's development.

### **4.3. Improve the Environmental Accounting Information Disclosure Training System**

We should focus on regular training for relevant personnel, strengthen theoretical training for relevant personnel, and interpret my country's policy on environmental accounting information disclosure. The methods and methods of information disclosure, so as to improve the efficiency and quality of the company's environmental accounting information disclosure as a whole.

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