BANGLADESH RURAL ELECTRIFICATION BOARD

BREB INSTRCTION 600-15

SUBJECT: Depreciation Rates of BREB Plants/Assets and its charging Methods/Procedures

General: I.

This Instruction sets forth to prescribe the specific rates to be used by the Finance Department of BREB for accounting for depreciation on BREB Plants/Assets.

II. Policy:

The depreciations rates set forth herein will be used in accounting depreciation of utility plant. No deviations are to be made from the prescribed rates and depreciation procedures without specific approval of the Board.

III. Depreciation Defined:

Depreciation is defined in the BREB/PBS General Accounts Manual and it is "the loss in Service value not restored by current maintenance, incurred in connection with the consumption or perspective retirement of electric plant in the course of service from causes which are known to be in current operation and against which the utility in not protected by insurance. Among the causes to be given consideration are wear and tear, decay, action of the elements, inadequacy, obsolescence, changes in the art, demand and requirements changes in of public authorities".

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(Md. Mozibur Rahman) (Md. Duhidul Islam) consultant TAPP BRER Consultant TAPP BREP

(Md. Moxammel Hug) onsultant TAPP BREP

(Md. Abdul Khalegue) Consultant TAPP, BREB

Consultant TAPP BREB

(Debasish Chakrabortty) PD, TAPP, BREB.

(Kamrul Alkan Molhida Asst. Secy. (Board), BREE ৬২১ তম বোর্ড সভার অনুমোদিত সিদ্ধান্ত নং ১৭৫

IV. Objectives of depreciation accounting:

The objectives of depreciation accounting is to charge the capital investment in certain fixed assets, less salvage at the time of retirement, the expense account over their useful lives. Thus it may be noted that the cost of capital investments in plant is recovered by means of proper depreciation accounting. The useful life of such assets is dependent upon such factors like no use, misuse, maintenance and obsolescence. The charge to expense account is accomplished by establishing depreciation rates as a percentage (%).

This percentage is applied to the cost of the asset yielding a monthly or annual amount of depreciation expense. Depreciation accounting provides systematic, periodic write down or allocation of the cost of a limited life assent or asset group. The established rate of depreciation should recognize useful life and recovery values.

V. Method of Deprecation:

BREB adopts the straight line method of computing depreciation. The BREB General Accounting Manual defines straight-line depreciation as "a method for periodically computing the expense represented by loss in service value of depreciable plant, under which the objective to such loss in equal installments over estimated or remaining estimated service life".

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(Md. Mozibur Rahman)

(Md. Duhidul Islam) Consultant TAPP BREF (Md. Mazammel Huq) Consultant, TAPP BRER

Md. Abdul Khaleque) Consultant TAPP, BREB

Consultant TAPP BREB

(Debasish Chakrabortty) PD.TAPP, BREB.

৬২১ তম বোর্জ সভায় অনুমোদিত সিদ্ধান্ত নং ১৭৭০০ (Kamrul A Fran Mollik) Asst. Secy. (Board), BREB.

Consultant TAPP BRER

To keep conformity with the practice of other utility organizations, depreciation will be charged on composite rate basis for each class of property including general plant. This is commonly referred to as "group method depreciation"

The group method consists of grouping a number of units of property for depreciation accounting purposes; depreciation is computed for the whole group. The units may be grouped by primary accounts or by functions; the essential requirement being that the property included in each group have some homogeneity. Under the group method when retirement of a depreciable unit of plant occurs, cost of the unit less net salvage value is charged to the appropriate accumulated provision for depreciation account. No recognition will be given to so called gain or loss until all the units included in the particular group are abandoned.

VI. The rate of depreciation on materials used for training or other unusual purposes will be determined annually by the committee assigned with this job.

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(Md. Mozibur Rahman) Consultant TAPP BREB (Md. Duhidul Islam) Consultant, TAPP, BREP (Md. Mozammel Huq) onsultant, TAPP BREP

(Md. Abdul Khaleque) Consultant TAPP, BREB

৬২১ তম বোর্ড সভায় অনুমোদিত সিদ্ধান্ত নং ১৭৭০০

(Md. Askanul Haque) (Debasish Chakrabortty)
Consultant TAPP BREB PD, TAPP BREB.

(Kamrul Ahean Mottik)
Asst. Secy. (Buard), BREB

VIII. Depreciation Rates:

SL.	Asset Group	Annual	
No.		depreciation	
1.	Structures and improvements	2%	
2.	Office Furniture & Fixtures		
	Furniture & miscellaneous office	8%	
	Fixtures and equipment.		
	Adding Machines, Calculator.	15%	
	Typewriters, Photocopying		
	Machines, Mimeograph and offset	15%	
	printing machines.		
	Data processing equipment/computers.	20%	
3.	Transportation equipments:		
	Automobiles.	12%	
	Motorcycles.	15%	
	Jeeps	08%	
	Pick-ups, Light Trucks including	12%	
	Auxiliary equipment.		
	Heavy Tracks, Buses, Vans	10%	
	including auxiliary equipment.		
	Trailers.	10%	
4.	Store Equipment.	10%	
5.	Tools, Garage Equipment.	10%	
6.	Test Equipment	12%	
7.	Laboratory Equipment.	12%	
8.	Power Operated Equipment.	15%	
9.	Communication Equipment.	10%	
10.	Misc Equipment.	16%	
11.	Other Tangible property.	16%	

XI. Accounting:

While charging depreciation, the respective accounts of the items under BREB Chart of Accounts will be debited and Accumulated provision for depreciation Account will be credited.

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(Md. Mozibur Rahman)
Consultant TAPP RREB

(Md. Duhidul Islam)

(Md. Mozammel Hug)
onsultant TAPP BREF Consultant TAPP BREF

(Md. Abdul Khaleque) Consultant, TAPP, BREB

৬২১ তম বোর্ড সভায় **অনুমোদি**ত সিদ্ধান্ত নং ১৭৭০০

(Md. Afranul Haque) Consultant, TAPP, BREB (Debasish Chakrabortty) (Kamrul Alean Mollik)
PD, TAPP, BREB. Asst. Secy. (Board), BREB.

X. Utilization of depreciation fund:

Purchases as replacement can be made by Utilizing depreciation fund with the approval of the competent authority. Utilization of the fund shall be maintained separately and accounting of the same to be made so that how much fund has been utilized can be traced out at a glance.

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(Md. Mozibur Rahman) Consultant TAPP BREB

(Md. Duhidul Islam) Consultant TAPP BREF (Md. Mozammel Huq) Consultant TAPP BREP

(Md. Abdul Khaleque) Consultant, TAPP, DREB

৬২১ তম বোর্ড সভায় অনুমোদিত সিদ্ধান্ত নং ১৭৭০০

(Md. Ahsanul Haque) Consultant TAPP BREB

(Debasish Chakrabortty) PD, TAPP, BREB.

(Kamrul Alwan Mollik) Asst. Secy. (Board), BREB.