

Project Update

Disclosures about an Employer's Participation in a Multiemployer Plan

Last Updated: March 18, 2010 (Updated sections are indicated with an asterisk *)

The staff has prepared this summary of Board decisions for information purposes only. Those Board decisions are tentative and do not change current accounting. Official positions of the FASB are determined only after extensive due process and deliberations.

[*Project Objective](#)

[*Next Steps](#)

[*Board/Other Public Meeting Dates](#)

[*Background Information](#)

[*Contact Information](#)

***Project Objective**

The objective of this project is to enhance the disclosure requirements of an employer's participation in a multiemployer plan under *FASB Accounting Standards Codification*[™] Subtopic 715-80 (originally issued as FASB Statements No. 87, *Employer's Accounting for Pensions*, No. 106, *Employers' Accounting for Postretirement Benefits Other Than Pensions*, and No. 132 (revised 2003), *Employers' Disclosures about Pensions and Other Postretirement Benefits*).

***Next Steps**

The staff expects the Board to begin deliberations in the near future, leading to a proposed Accounting Standards Update in the second quarter of 2010 and a final Update early in the fourth quarter of 2010.

***Board/Other Public Meeting Dates**

The Board meeting minutes are provided for the information and convenience of constituents who want to follow the Board's deliberations. All of the conclusions reported are tentative and may be changed at future Board meetings. Decisions become final only after a formal written ballot to issue a final standard.

*March 17, 2010 [Board Meeting](#)—Agenda Announcement

***Background Information**

At the March 17, 2010 FASB Board meeting, the FASB chairman

announced the addition of a new project aimed at expanding disclosures about an employer's participation in a multiemployer plan (that is, pension and other postretirement benefits). The project was added in response to concerns raised by several constituents about the current disclosures for multiemployer plans. Among the concerns raised is the lack of information in the financial statements, beyond the contributions made, about an employer's participation in a multiemployer plan. Additionally, several users have published reports highlighting these concerns, including the potential for increases in contributions as a result of plans being underfunded. The funded status of many of these plans deteriorated significantly during the financial crisis of 2008 when plan asset values dropped significantly.

It is envisioned that expanded disclosures would enable users of financial statements to better assess the risks a reporting entity faces by participating in a multiemployer plan.

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