

Wassana Srisurarak 2010: Environmental Reporting of the Companies Listed in the Stock Exchange of Thailand. Master of Accountancy, Major Field: Accounting, Department of Accounting. Thesis Advisor: Mr. Sansakrit Vichitlekarn, Ph.D. 139 pages.

The objectives of this research were to examine number and level of environmental reporting disclosures of companies listed in the Stock Exchange of Thailand (company) and to document the relationship between the number of environmental reporting and the company's characteristics. Data were gathered from financial reports, the annual filing form (form 56-1), and the annual report (form 56-2) of year 2005, totaling 339 companies. Analyses of data were conducted using descriptive statistics which included mean, percentage, minimum, and maximum. Hypotheses tests were performed at statistical significance level of 0.05 via multiple regression analysis and multiple comparison under which LSD statistics was employed.

The results reveal that collectively 339 companies report 4,022 sentences on the environmental reporting with an average of 11.86 sentences per company; 93.48 percent of all sentences are qualitative information. The Energy and Utilities sector reports the highest number of environmental reporting whereas the Personal Products and Pharmaceuticals sector reports the lowest number of those. According to the environmental reporting criteria of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting- ISAR, the most reported topic is the implemented environmental policy; but according to that of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Thailand, it is the topic of procedures to reduce the environmental impact. The environmental reporting level analysis indicates that the reporting level of most companies is low. In addition, the company size is positively related to the number of reporting i.e., the larger the company size, the more the number of report. Thus, it is suggested that the governing agencies advocate and realize the importance of environmental reporting so that the companies would provide more decision-useful information to financial statement users, especially the reporting by small firms and in topics of environmental liability reporting, tax effects, and related grants. Moreover, the companies should be encouraged to report more on quantitative information; it would enable the financial statement users to comprehend more on the reported environmental information. As for investors, they should be cautious on the company size when using the information on environmental reporting to accompany an investment analysis.

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