

Research on Social Responsibility Accounting Information Disclosure of Company A

Yingqi Yu

*School of Economics and Management, Guangxi Normal University, Guilin, China
1820331152@qq.com*

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Abstract: Food is closely related to human life. The food industry has always played an extremely important role. The fulfilment of social responsibility in the food industry has received widespread attention from all walks of life. Corporate social responsibility reports or annual reports are the main channels for stakeholders to obtain information on the implementation of social responsibility in the food industry. The research on corporate social responsibility information disclosure in the food industry has theoretical and practical significance for improving the disclosure environment and improving the quality of information disclosure in China. This paper selects A company in the food industry as an example to study the status quo of its social responsibility information disclosure. The study found that the effectiveness of social responsibility accounting information disclosure depends not only on the external social environment factors, but also on the internal governance of A company. This paper analyzes the problems existing in the current social responsibility accounting information disclosure of A company and puts forward some suggestions. Enterprises should improve the social responsibility accounting information disclosure standards, strengthen the awareness of corporate social responsibility, and escort public food safety.

1. Introduction

In today's society, the social responsibility of food enterprises has become a topic of widespread concern. With the increasing emphasis on health, environment and social responsibility, food enterprises pay more and more attention to the fulfilment of social responsibility and information disclosure. At present, more and more food enterprises in China are actively disclosing social responsibility information, but there are still many problems in the disclosure of social responsibility accounting information, which is far from meeting the needs of social responsibility development[1]. Whether it can meet people's demand for food quality lies not only in the supervision of government departments, but also in whether food industry enterprises can effectively fulfil their social responsibilities. This paper takes company A as the research object, analyses the current situation of social responsibility disclosure of company A, and puts forward scientific suggestions for the current situation and problems of disclosure, in order to improve the quality of social responsibility accounting information disclosure of company A, and also to improve the level of social responsibility information disclosure of other food processing

enterprises. Make effective reference.

2. Related concepts and theoretical basis

2.1 Social Responsibility of Business

The concept of corporate social responsibility in China started relatively late, but it has developed rapidly with the "late-development advantage". Xu Yaozhi's research holds that the improvement of the status of trade network can significantly promote enterprises to fulfill their social responsibilities, and enterprises' active fulfilment of social responsibilities can help improve their operating conditions[2]; Lu Daifu pointed out that corporate social responsibility is only a part of the responsibility of enterprises. In addition to social responsibility, enterprises should also bear moral responsibility and legal responsibility[3]; the higher the level of equity concentration, the higher the level of social responsibility information disclosure[4]. According to the stakeholder theory, enterprises now take the common interests of multiple parties as the basis for production and operation decision-making. If the information disclosure of enterprises is not sufficient, stakeholders may lose important information and make wrong decisions. Therefore, enterprises should not only develop themselves, but also do a good job in 'corporate citizenship', which is a major task for enterprises to build a harmonious society.

2.2 Social Responsibility Accounting

Williams believes that the content of corporate social responsibility accounting information disclosure should cover many fields such as product quality, employee compensation, environmental conditions, corporate and consumer information[5]. In recent years, some outstanding scholars in China have also begun to conduct relevant research on social responsibility accounting. Zeng Yafan's study found that the introduction of the concept of "social responsibility" into the corporate governance mechanism can not only promote the enterprise's emphasis on social responsibility. It can also continuously adjust the organizational structure of the company, improve the incentive mechanism of executives, and improve the efficiency of board governance by fulfilling social responsibility[6]; Zhao Jianhui's research found that the better the social responsibility performance of listed companies, the better the quality of accounting information [7]. According to the theory of information asymmetry, different users have different understanding and mastery of the same information. Whoever grasps more information can grasp more initiative. Information disclosure can reduce information differences, so that stakeholders and corporate management in a relatively balanced state.

2.3 Social Responsibility Information Disclosure

The disclosure of social responsibility accounting information refers to the way in which enterprises use a variety of carriers to convey social responsibility to the outside world in different ways, so that stakeholders can better understand the operation of enterprises. In the study of corporate social responsibility accounting, Isabelle Malignant, David A. Ralston divides the content of social responsibility accounting information disclosure into five categories, which should include shareholders, suppliers, employees, customers, governments and shareholders[8]. Kong Dongming and other studies have pointed out that strengthening the supervision of financial asset information disclosure has directly promoted the transparency of corporate accounting information disclosure. The theory of sustainable development points out that sustainable development is a state of internal and external balanced development pursued by enterprises. It is necessary to take into account the

environment, society, and the economic factors of stakeholders, and adhere to the people-oriented comprehensive, coordinated and sustainable development path. Enterprises should actively disclose the accounting information of fulfilling their social responsibilities, uphold the concept of sustainable development that pursues balanced development of environment, economy and society, and achieve common progress[9].

3. The Current Situation of Social Responsibility Accounting Information Disclosure of A Company

3.1 A company profile

The main business of A company's current production and sales has occupied an important position in China's listed companies, with annual sales of up to 10 billion yuan. As a national brand, company A continues to focus on consumer-centered R & D and manufacturing while developing itself. It is committed to public welfare, rural revitalization and common prosperity, and realizes the common development of enterprises and society.

A company's board of directors has four professional committees and set up specific functional departments. The board of supervisors is the supervision organ of the company, and does not participate in the company's strategic decision-making. In the daily work, the board of supervisors exercises the supervision responsibility, supervises the completion of the work of the company's senior management personnel, ensures the smooth operation of the enterprise, and realizes the maximization of the profit of the enterprise in the fastest and best way in the shortest time.

3.2 The content of social responsibility information disclosure of A company

3.2.1 Society

In 2020, in the face of the epidemic, in order to protect the interests of the collective and the public, the company established an epidemic prevention and control group, which provided a strong guarantee for the company's resumption of work and production and the safety of employees' lives. The whole company actively listened to the leadership of the state and the government, and supported the fight against the epidemic through cooperation with various units. In that year, the flood situation in the Yangtze River Basin was very severe. The company responded to the requirements of the local government at the first time, established the " Leading Group of Flood Control and Flood Control Work ", launched all flood defense plans, and mobilized two batches of flood defense materials to provide assistance to the affected areas.

In 2021, based on laws and regulations and food safety management system, the company continued to promote the strategic layout of " from quality control to quality experience, and build a consumer-centered global quality leading management system ". In the face of the severe situation of the epidemic, the company not only did not lay off one person, but expanded the scale of recruitment. In the first half of 2020 alone, more than 1,000 new employees were recruited. When the flood disaster was very serious, the company urgently allocated a large number of food supplies to support the frontline, and sent supplies to the frontline staff to ensure the smooth progress of rescue and rescue work.

In 2022, a volunteer team has been established, and nearly 200 party members, activists and outstanding staff representatives of enterprises signed up to participate, go deep into the community, organized participation in prevention and control work, and fulfilled their social responsibilities and obligations. On June 1st, 2022, Children's Day, the company joined hands with the local Veterans Affairs Bureau to organize the theme activities of Children 's Day, communicated with children and

send them holiday blessings. At the same time, the company joined hands with the local municipal party committee to organize summer camps, invited urban migrant children and rural left-behind children to participate, shared their reading experience, and let children fall in love with reading.

3.2.2 Environment

In 2020, the company carried out in-depth cooperation and joint construction with local procuratorates, courts and other departments, and establish a joint working group to guide the company to do a good job in anti-corruption work. In November, in the activity of " National College Students ' Integrity Education Month, " the party secretary of the company was invited to conduct an online live broadcast course on the theme of " Practical Exploration of Building Clean Enterprises " for college students in 38 colleges and universities across the country, transmitting the concept of integrity. It is hoped that the integrity of this live broadcast course can affect more young people and encourage more young people to participate in the fight against corruption.

In 2021, in order to concentrate goods and effectively reduce the rate of demolition, the company adopted the implementation of the large warehouse system in 2021, and the rate of demolition decreased by 4% compared with the previous year. The concentration of parcels also effectively reduces the use of cartons, the use of face sheets, and the number of transports. In order to reduce the waste of cartons and reduce carbon emissions, the company implemented the O2C carton project, which reduced the waste of about 4.84 million cartons throughout the year, and the utilization rate of secondary cartons was about 20 %. Through regular maintenance of product volume data and sharing packaging memory method with Alibaba Cloud, the company's current shipping carton matching degree reaches more than 90 %, greatly reducing the waste caused by carton vacancy.

In 2022, automatic packaging of the same amount of goods can save 50 % of labor and increase efficiency by more than 70% compared with the past manual methods. In addition, package delivery automation, express sorting, weighing and sorting automation, AGV handling and other projects are planned. Effectively reduce the use of cartons and sheets, saving labor, shorten the delivery time.

3.2.3 Corporate Governance

In 2020, the company strictly followed the "governance standards of listed companies" and " articles of association " to standardize its operations, and conducted comprehensive supervision and management of the shareholders ' meeting and the board of directors, so that the company's governance structure and internal control system have been effectively maintained. The company has established a long-term development partnership by accepting on-site investigations and answering investors' calls. The company earnestly fulfills the business development strategy, continuously improves the management level of employees, pays attention to the return of shareholders, and ensures that shareholders have legitimate rights and interests.

In 2021, since its establishment, the company has been committed to developing the brand strength of the main industry, constantly improving the governance structure and management system, and improving the management level of the company. According to the requirements of relevant laws and regulations, the company has constructed a set of scientific corporate governance structure, and formed a system of mutual cooperation and mutual restriction among the board of directors, the board of supervisors and other managers at all levels. The company communicates with investors through diversified channels such as information disclosure, performance briefings, and hotlines, so that they have a deeper and clearer understanding of the company.

In 2022, according to the latest laws and regulations, regulatory rules, combined with the actual business situation, the company's internal governance has been further standardized, and employees

help and cooperate with each other to enhance the company's internal cohesion. During the reporting period, in order to standardize the organization and behavior of senior management personnel and better clarify the responsibilities of personnel at all levels, the company revised and improved the corresponding governance system based on the actual situation of enterprise operation and the normative requirements of listed companies, and gradually built and improved the system. The system has realized the comprehensive optimization of all aspects of internal governance of the company.

3.2.4 Consumer Right

In 2020, the company formulated the "Partner Quality and Food Safety Management Standards ", implemented strict access and performance evaluation for suppliers, supervised and controlled all aspects of the company's organizational structure, personnel, processing, logistics and storage, ensured the efficient operation of the quality management system and internal control system, and ensured the quality of products. Only in this way can consumers buy reassuring products, increase consumers' trust in enterprises, and protect consumers' rights and interests.

In 2021, in order to enable consumers to eat healthier products, the company has been working on "clean label" research. The company successfully used natural sweeteners with obvious advantages of clean labels to replace high-sweetness chemical sweeteners, becoming the first and only brand in China to use natural sweeteners, changing the current situation of chemical synthetic sweeteners in nut industry formulations. In that year, the company's food research institute once again realized the wide application of oligofructose and trehalose, breaking the technical barriers in the industry to apply oligofructose to nut products.

In 2022, in order to strengthen the quality control quality, the company continues to improve the control standards, allocate professional resources, and improve the full-link quality management system from production and processing to circulation and consumption. The company has established a risk index database, including 32 categories of food, catering food, quality indicators and other indicators of a total of 704 items. It is equipped with dozens of food safety personnel covering the whole chain of procurement, quality, production, research and development, testing, logistics, sales and so on. Up to now, it has successfully landed more than 50 % of the core supplier's special line quantitative management to protect consumers ' rights and interests.

4. Analysis of A Company's Social Responsibility Information Disclosure Problem

4.1 Disclosure of information is too single

Company A only has its first social responsibility report in 2022. It used annual reports and semi-annual reports for information disclosure before 2022. From the perspective of the content of disclosure, it involves a wide range of content. The disclosure of social responsibility information on social welfare is mainly reflected in supporting the development of poverty-stricken areas by means of assistance and providing jobs. Participate in the rescue frontline to help common prosperity; promote the construction of ecological civilization and help environmental protection ; rural revitalization, actively support rural infrastructure construction and enhance the level of rural civilization. The environment is mainly reflected in the use of environmentally friendly materials, such as the use of green building materials, the use of more advanced production technology to reduce pollution; actively promote green production methods to reduce environmental pollution. Among them, the 2020 annual report has a short space in the disclosure of social responsibility accounting information, and many aspects are simply summarized without detailed explanation. The information disclosure in the past three years is mainly in these aspects, with less disclosure of

other aspects and too single disclosure information.

4.2 Food Safety Information was not Focused on Disclosure

Although the food industry is generally the same as the social responsibility requirements of other types of enterprises, the food industry is closely related to human life activities, so it shows different characteristics from other enterprises. Food safety is a special indicator of the food industry. The analysis of these special indicators can better disclose the performance of A company's social responsibility and grasp more comprehensive information of A company. However, Company A discloses more detailed information on consumers, employees, corporate governance, and social information, but there is almost no disclosure of food safety information.

The above annual reports and social responsibility reports from 2020 to 2022 show that the social responsibility information disclosed by Company A is not industry-specific, and food safety is not the focus of the report disclosure. It simply adds food safety statements when introducing other aspects, and even differs in content. The disclosure content mainly focuses on the product quality system, and does not extend to other aspects such as product safety. The food industry is a special industry, and consumers must first consider food safety, because food safety is related to human life and health. Company A has little information disclosure on food safety, and there may be potential health risks in food. However, the outside world can only obtain some information to make judgments, which makes the social responsibility accounting information disclosure of food enterprises lose value and cannot help enterprises gain public trust and enhance corporate image.

The main reason for this phenomenon is that the overall disclosure quality of the domestic food industry is uneven, and there is no perfect and reliable disclosure system and unified disclosure standard, resulting in the lack of comparable indicators in the disclosure of social responsibility accounting information, which leads to the lack of complete information disclosure in the disclosure of social responsibility accounting information.

4.3 Lack of Negative Information Disclosure

Most of the information disclosure of A company is positive information, and there is almost no disclosure of negative information. This does not mean that A company has not had negative events. Instead, it may be to reduce the spread of negative news, avoid unnecessary information dissemination, reduce the adverse impact on the company, and choose not to disclose or disclose false information.

Company A lacks the consciousness of disclosing negative information. Although negative information is also conducive to shaping a good image of corporate responsibility, if negative information is intentionally improperly disseminated by other competitors, if the company does not properly resolve it, it will still damage the company's image and reduce the status of the company's brand in the eyes of the public. Relevant departments adopt the principle of voluntariness for enterprises to disclose negative information. Therefore, government departments have not formulated detailed laws and regulations in various industries to require enterprises to disclose negative information. The degree of disclosure of social responsibility information by enterprises depends entirely on their own consciousness. The lag of relevant legislative work also leads to the lack of legal basis for the punishment of enterprises that do not disclose negative information. Under the condition of no external constraints, enterprises will choose the option of high self-interest in most cases, that is, disclose most of the positive information and are unwilling to disclose the negative information actively.

5. The Reasons for the Problem of A company's Social Responsibility Accounting Information Disclosure

5.1 Stakeholders Have Weak Awareness of Social Responsibility Information Disclosure

Social responsibility accounting information disclosure is a complex concept for the public. Stakeholders' awareness of social responsibility information disclosure is weak, resulting in a small number of public groups using information; the public's understanding of social responsibility information disclosure is not comprehensive, and enterprises will not feel a lot of public opinion pressure, resulting in enterprises' inactive information disclosure or low quality of disclosure. For consumers, they will judge whether there is a quality problem in the product through the feelings after each purchase. They have not considered whether the enterprise has established a complete food safety system. The negative news is understood through the news public opinion, and the received news is delayed. Shareholders usually buy stocks voluntarily to obtain dividends, and do not really care whether the company is truly responsible for them, nor does it stipulate that the company must disclose information on its social responsibility; for suppliers, they often indicate the relationship between supply and demand by signing contracts. In contracts, they generally only stipulate the quality requirements, delivery dates, and liability for breach of contract of products supplied by suppliers. If there is a failure to perform, the signatories will not consider the disclosure of suppliers in the social responsibility report.

5.2 The Laws and Regulations of Social Responsibility Accounting Information Disclosure are not Perfect

At present, the laws and regulations related to the disclosure of social responsibility accounting information in the food industry are not perfect enough. These legal norms are often formulated by different subjects and applied to different fields, so it is often difficult to unify the content. Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen the construction of laws and regulations to improve the quality of social responsibility accounting information disclosure in China. At present, although China has issued relevant laws such as the "Anti-Unfair Competition Law", it has not made comprehensive provisions on the social responsibilities that food companies should bear, and has not systematically constrained and regulated them. In the actual operation process, these laws and regulations lack clear guidance. Therefore, there are still some difficulties in applying them to the actual work of social responsibility accounting information disclosure in the food industry. The imperfection of laws and regulations has increased the difficulty of guiding and supervising the disclosure of social responsibility accounting information of listed companies in China's food industry. At the same time, the social responsibility reports of different enterprises are scattered on the company's website. Therefore, it is difficult to effectively collect and extract important information from the website of each enterprise, so that the horizontal comparison between them becomes difficult. Different types of enterprises have great differences in fulfilling corporate social responsibility information. Social responsibility information disclosure has great irregularity and arbitrariness, which greatly affects the quality of social responsibility information disclosure in the food industry.

5.3 Lack of Third-Party Audit

China's corporate social responsibility accounting is in the primary stage of exploration. National government departments and relevant agencies should actively encourage and guide food companies to publish social responsibility accounting information reports. Due to the lack of

third-party audits of the information disclosure content of the food industry, the disclosure of social responsibility accounting information of food companies lacks accuracy and authenticity. Imperfect laws and regulations have caused enterprises to show a more casual attitude when disclosing social responsibility accounting information, so that the information disclosed has been inaccurate and unreliable, and even the positive information of enterprises has been over-exaggerated, making enterprises in trouble. Only by strengthening the independent third-party inspection system can we effectively guarantee the effectiveness of the company's disclosure of social responsibility information. However, in order to conduct independent audits, it is necessary to have a special audit institution on the market to strictly audit the corporate social responsibility report. However, in order to save business costs, most companies are reluctant to hire external auditors to audit social responsibility reports. However, it is difficult for internal audits to directly audit and supervise them. It is more of a business guidance relationship and cannot play a supervisory role. Therefore, a strict third-party supervision system should be established in the food industry as soon as possible.

6. Suggestions

6.1 Improve the Social Responsibility Accounting Information Disclosure Standards

Through the evaluation of the social responsibility accounting information disclosure of A company, it is suggested that the relevant departments and agencies of the state should first improve the legal standards, unify the relevant normative standards, let the enterprises spontaneously compile the social responsibility report that meets the requirements, and enhance the consciousness of the enterprises to consciously disclose. Based on China's basic national conditions, learn from foreign advanced technologies and methods, combined with the development prospects of China's food industry, establish a set of guiding and targeted social responsibility accounting information disclosure standards that are compatible with the actual situation of China's food industry. Combined with the disclosure of A company, in the process of compiling laws and regulations, we should strengthen the requirements of food safety production chain, employee welfare and salary, food additive use and other aspects, so that all departments within the enterprise can perform their duties, supervise each other, make progress together, and disclose high-quality social responsibility information. Enterprises that disclose false information should be punished by law, so that enterprises can fully disclose social responsibility accounting information, promote enterprises to actively assume responsibility, gain public recognition, and enhance their core brand capabilities.

6.2 Increase the Relevant Accounting Indicators in the Social Responsibility Report

Enterprises should not only clarify the social responsibilities that have been fulfilled in the information report, so that readers can understand, but also create a social responsibility index system to quantify the relevant content, so as to more clearly show the content of enterprise information disclosure. The index system requires the combination of quantitative indicators and qualitative indicators to ensure the integrity, reliability and comparability of information disclosure. The quantitative indicators can be the amount of food additives used in the production of enterprise products, the number of consumer satisfaction, and the participation of enterprises in public welfare activities for several times a year. Adding relevant accounting indicators to social responsibility reports can solve two problems: first, it reduces the information asymmetry between enterprises and external information users, so that information users have an overall understanding of the company's achievements in fulfilling social responsibilities. Secondly, it strengthens the trust of external information users in the information disclosed by enterprises, so as to shape the corporate image of enterprises.

6.3 Increase the Relevant Accounting Indicators in the Social Responsibility Report

The attention of the management and the importance of each employee will affect the social consciousness of the enterprise. Social responsibility is a large and broad concept, which runs through many aspects of the production activities of each department of the enterprise. The quality of information disclosure depends on the specific functional departments and specific positions. The stronger the enterprise development ability, the stronger the profitability, the higher the quality of social responsibility information disclosure. Enterprises can allocate highly responsible employees from various departments, form a responsibility department, select leading members, and form a special matrix organizational structure, which is specifically responsible for internal supervision and the preparation of social responsibility reports to improve the quality of information disclosure. Enterprises should promote the concept of social responsibility information disclosure to employees, so as to strengthen the awareness of social responsibility of enterprises, organize relevant activities within the enterprise, let every member of the enterprise understand the connotation of social responsibility information disclosure, and establish incentive mechanism within the enterprise. To stimulate the enthusiasm and participation of employees, to link personal value with enterprise value, to enhance the sense of responsibility of employees, and to form a corporate culture.

7. Conclusions

Finally, the quality of food is closely related to the health of consumers, but also related to their own interests. However, in recent years, due to the non-standard production and operation of some food manufacturers, the quality and safety problems of food have occurred frequently, which has also attracted the attention of public opinion. Food quality and safety is the focus of the work of all parties in society, the state should increase the penalties for violations of food safety regulations. In recent years, the occurrence of a series of events such as food safety, production safety and environmental pollution in China has made the issue of corporate social responsibility more concerned and valued. As a special enterprise, the food industry must always put food quality and safety in the top priority of business production. From individuals, positions, departments, organizations to the whole enterprise, it is necessary to strengthen supervision and ensure food safety and consumer interests. Enterprises should strengthen the supply chain of food production, preservation and sales, and effectively prevent quality risks from all aspects. At the same time, enterprises should also use advanced information technology to achieve high-level technical supervision, reduce labor, and establish professional inspection institutions to achieve full-index inspection of products.

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