

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Modification of Mail Classification Schedule  
Regarding Bound Printed Matter

Docket No. MC2008-3

COMMISSION INFORMATION REQUEST NO. 2

(Issued April 18, 2008)

In comments filed April 9, 2008, commenters raise several issues regarding the Postal Service's planned classification change that would require all Bound Printed Matter (BPM) mailings be paid by permit imprint only.<sup>1</sup> Among other things, the Postal Service's planned change may cause some single-piece BPM volume to shift to other and more expensive postal products, *i.e.*, inter- and intra-BMC Parcel Post or Media Mail. These potential volume shifts may increase Package Services' revenue after May 12, 2008 and may affect the cap compliance or require a recalculation of the banked amount.

The Commission has the following questions regarding the planned changes to BPM service. The Postal Service is requested to respond to these questions by no later than April 25, 2008.

1. To ensure that these single-piece BPM volume shifts do not cause the Package Services class to exceed the 2.9 percent price cap established in Docket No. R2008-1, please: (a) provide workpapers which calculate the shifts in volume

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<sup>1</sup> See Public Representative Comments in Response to Notices of Classification Change for Market-Dominant Bound Printed Matter Postal Products, April 9, 2009; Comments of Pitney Bowes Inc. in Response to Notice of Classification Change for Market Dominant Products, April 9, 2008; Douglas F. Carlson Comments on Proposed Classification Change for Bound Printed Matter, April 9, 2008; Initial Comments of David B. Popkin, April 9, 2008; and Comments and Motion for a Stay of Proceeding of American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO, April 9, 2008.

resulting from the classification change for each product in the Package Services class, and (b) explain the basis, including all assumptions used, on how the volumes were redistributed within the Package Services class.

2. If volumes are expected to decrease as a result of this change, please describe how the policies of 39 U.S.C. §§ 3622(c)(4), (8), and (11) were taken into account in determining to make this change.
3. Is the distribution of volumes in No. 1 above influenced by method of postage payment, *e.g.*, stamps or Postage Validation Imprint? If so, please elaborate and show the distribution by method of payment. If not, please explain.
4. Based on the shift in volumes reported in No. 1 above, please recalculate: (a) the percentage change in rates by product, (b) the average percentage change in rates for the Package Services class, and (c) the unused rate adjustment authority associated with rates to be effective May 12, 2008.<sup>2</sup>
5. Please explain the rationale for not including: (a) postage meters, and (b) information-based indicia as authorized payment options for single-piece BPM.
6. Please identify: (a) all other indicia (excluding stamps, metered mail, Postage Validation Imprints, information-based indicia, and permit imprints) that currently may be used to mail single-piece BPM; and (b) each indicia identified in response to subpart (a) which, under the planned classification change, would no longer be an authorized payment option for single-piece BPM.

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<sup>2</sup> See Docket R2008-1, PRC-R2008-1-LR-4.

7. For each indicia identified in response to 6(b) above, please explain the rationale for not including that indicia as an authorized payment option for single-piece BPM.

Steven W. Williams  
Secretary