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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

PRESIDING OFFICER'S
RULING NO. C2001-1/3

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

Complaint on Sunday and Holiday Collections

Docket No. C2001-1

PRESIDING OFFICER'S RULING
GRANTING OUTSTANDING MOTIONS
FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

(Issued June 29, 2001)

In Presiding Officer's Ruling No. C2001-2, I granted the Postal Service's motion for an extension of time to respond to pending discovery requests by Complainant, including its requests for a deadline of June 8, 2001 for filing objections and June 12, 2001 for otherwise answering the interrogatories in question. The Service objected to Interrogatories DFC/USPS-19 through -21 on June 4. On June 15, Complainant submitted a motion for extension of the normally applicable deadline for filing motions to compel, citing a need to review the voluminous contents of the Service's discovery responses to date in order to establish whether substantive responses to these interrogatories are necessary.¹ Subsequently, on June 26, Mr. Carlson filed an extensive motion to compel responses to DFC/USPS-19 through -21.²

¹ Douglas F. Carlson Motion for Extension of Time to Respond to Postal Service Objections, June 15, 2001.

² Douglas F. Carlson Motion to Compel the United States Postal Service to Respond to Interrogatories DFC/USPS-19-21, June 26, 2001.

On June 27, the Postal Service filed a motion requesting an extension of the July 3 deadline for filing a response to Complainant's motion to compel to July 9, 2001.³ The Service notes that Mr. Carlson's motion is lengthy and encompasses a wide variety of issues, and states that a response will require coordination with postal personnel and officials at many levels and in many locations. The Service represents that such coordination will be time consuming, particularly in this period of holidays and absences due to summer vacations. Additionally, the Service cites the imminent due dates for other discovery responses and pleadings, and counsel's scheduled absence from the office to attend mandatory training.

I shall grant the pending motions for extension of time for the reasons cited by Complainant and the Postal Service. In view of the mutual benefits provided by the relief granted, no party will be prejudiced by this outcome.

RULING

1. The Douglas F. Carlson Motion for Extension of Time to Respond to Postal Service Objections, filed June 15, 2001, is granted.
2. The Motion of the United States Postal Service for an Extension of Time to Respond to the Carlson Motion to Compel on DFC/USPS-19 – 21, filed June 27, 2001, is granted.



Ruth Y. Goldway
Presiding Officer

³ Motion of the United States Postal Service for an Extension of Time to Respond to the Carlson Motion to Compel on DFC/USPS-19 – 21, June 27, 2001.