Postal Rate Commission
Submitted 9/2/2005 3:23 pm
Filing ID: 46627
Accepted 9/2/2005

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

Postal Rate and Fee Changes Docket No. R2005-1

PRESIDING OFFICER'S INFORMATION REQUEST NO. 14

(Issued September 2, 2005)

The United States Postal Service is requested to provide the information described below to assist in developing a record for the consideration of the Postal Service's request for changes in rates and fees. In order to facilitate inclusion of this material in the evidentiary record, the Postal Service is to have a witness attest to the accuracy of the answers and be prepared to explain to the extent necessary the basis for the answers. The answers are to be provided within 14 days.

1. On August 18, 2005, the Presiding Officer issued POIR No. 13. Question 2 asked the Postal Service to provide a revised LR-K-101 that (1) eliminates the sheet "RCCS EVAL", which contains an obsolete distribution of mail by shape, and (2) incorporates an "LR-K-67 type" parcel crosswalk to align rural flat and parcel volumes with the DMM definition. On September 1, 2005, the Postal Service responded to Question 2 by providing a ZIP file with a version of LR-K-101 that contains the two changes requested. It then adds that

> …the net result of these changes does not necessarily yield an analytically satisfactory model. Mechanistic alterations to the structure of the model for the purpose of addressing one set of issues can, unfortunately, create other issues that may be equally vexing. While none of the issues which arise seem inherently insurmountable, simultaneous resolution of the full set (or, at least, a broader set) of potential problems would require a concerted effort and, perhaps, some restructuring of the model that may render its relationship to the previous models somewhat more tenuous. The Postal Service has given some consideration to the types of

> alterations that might be beneficial, but has not gone further in the absence of any specific requests or specific instructions regarding further deviations from the baseline model.

Please describe the issues or problems that you consider to have been caused by making the changes requested by Question 2 of POIR No. 13.

2. Please make the alterations that you consider might be beneficial in making the LR-K-101 model an analytically satisfactory model.

George Omas
Presiding Officer