

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

Postal Rate and Fee Changes

Docket No. R2006-1

PRESIDING OFFICER'S RULING
ADOPTING SPECIAL RULES OF PRACTICE
CONCERNING CORRECTION AND TRANSCRIPTION
OF PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY

(Issued June 30, 2006)

During the prehearing conference of June 16, I noted the Commission's long-standing practice of transcribing all prepared written testimony, except that of the Postal Service, and invited comments on whether the practice should continue to be observed in this proceeding.¹ The general tenor of comments at that time favored discontinuation of the transcription of parties' written prefiled testimony. However, one commenter noted that, should witnesses make last-minute changes to their testimony—which in the past have been incorporated into the written transcript—it would be helpful if the filing parties subsequently filed amended testimony on the Commission's website.²

In view of the electronic filing of prepared testimony under current Commission rules, and in the interest of economy, I shall direct that written testimony not be transcribed in this proceeding. However, because participants will rely on the finality of testimony retrieved from the Commission's website, I shall also adopt a special rule requiring a participant or its counsel to certify in writing, whenever any testimony is received into evidence, that a final, corrected, complete and accurate version of the

¹ Tr. 1/27-28.

² *Id.* at 28-30.

testimony of that witness, identified as such, has been transmitted to the Commission's docket section.

RULING

1. The following is adopted as Special Rule of Practice No. 1 in this proceeding:
 1. Prepared written testimony shall not be entered into the transcript of hearings in this proceeding.

2. The following is adopted as Special Rule of Practice No. 2 in this proceeding:
 2. Whenever any change has been made to prepared written testimony after its initial filing, the participant on whose behalf the witness testifies shall certify in writing, within seven days of the entry of that testimony into the record, that a final and complete version of the testimony of that witness, identified as such, has been transmitted to the Commission's docket section.

George Omas
Presiding Officer