

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

Before Commissioners:

Robert G. Taub, Chairman;
Michael Kubayanda, Vice Chairman;
Mark Acton;
Ann C. Fisher; and
Ashley E. Poling

Statutory Review of the System
for Regulating Rates and Classes
for Market Dominant Products

Docket No. RM2017-3

ORDER SHORTENING MOTION RESPONSE PERIOD

(Issued February 7, 2020)

On February 6, 2020, the Postal Service filed a motion requesting the Commission to file appendices to reports accompanying Order No. 5337.¹ These reports were written by Northwest Postal Consulting regarding the Postal Service's total factor productivity (TFP) model and productivity measurement before and after the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006.² In its Motion, the Postal Service states that the final page of each report lists six appendices. Motion at 1. The Postal

¹ Motion of the United States Postal Service for Filing of Appendices to Reports Filed with Order No. 5337, February 6, 2020 (Motion); see Revised Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, December 5, 2019 (Order No. 5337).

² Northwest Postal Consulting, Adequacy of the Postal Service's TFP Model, March 27, 2017; Northwest Postal Consulting, Comparison of Postal Service Productivity Measurement: Before and After PAEA Enactment, March 27, 2017.

Service notes that these appendices were neither included with the reports nor filed separately. *Id.* It states that access to the full range of materials underlying the two reports is necessary to evaluate and respond to initial comments and accompanying declarations that make technical arguments about the TFP methodology. *Id.*

Under the Commission's rules, answers to the Motion would typically be due within 7 days after the Motion was filed. See 39 C.F.R. § 3001.21(b). The rules also allow for the Commission to set a different response period. *Id.* The Postal Service notes that reply comments to Order No. 5337 are due on March 4, 2020 and states that "[t]he relief sought by this motion is extremely unlikely to draw opposition, given its substance and the lack of apparent prejudice to any party." Motion at 2 (footnote omitted). Based on these circumstances, the Postal Service asks the Commission to either waive or shorten the 7 day response period for this Motion. *Id.*

The Commission finds the Postal Service's request to shorten the response period reasonable given the approaching deadline for reply comments. The Commission directs that answers to the Motion are due by February 10, 2020.

It is ordered:

Answers to the Postal Service Motion for Filing of Appendices to Reports Filed with Order No. 5337 are due by February 10, 2020.

By the Commission.

Erica A. Barker
Secretary