

BEFORE THE  
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 2000

Docket No. R2000-1

RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
WITNESS KINGSLEY TO INTERROGATORY OF  
KEYSPAN ENERGY  
(KE/USPS-T10-5)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides the response of witness Kingsley to the following interrogatory of Keyspan Energy: KE/USPS-T10-5, filed on March 21, 2000.

The interrogatory is stated verbatim and is followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr.  
Chief Counsel, Ratemaking



Susan M. Duchek

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April 4, 2000

**RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS KINGSLEY  
TO INTERROGATORIES OF KEYSpan ENERGY**

**KE/USPS-T10-5** Please refer to your response to Interrogatory KE/USPS-T10-1, where you indicate that the Advanced Facer Canceler System (AFCS) does not cull out heavy letter-sized mail.

(a) Please explain whether or not the Postal Service culls out any letter-sized mail pieces, based on weight, prior to processing that occurs in the Mail Preparation operation. If the Service does so, at what weight level are letter-sized pieces culled out and how is this task accomplished?

(b) Please explain whether or not the Postal Service culls out any letter-sized pieces, based on weight, prior to processing that occurs in the Outgoing RBCS operation. If the Service does so, at what weight level are letter-sized pieces culled out and how is this task accomplished?

(c) Please explain whether or not the Postal Service culls out any letter-sized pieces, based on weight, prior to processing that occurs in the Outgoing Primary Automation operation. If the Service does so, at what weight level are letter-sized pieces culled out and how is this task accomplished?

(d) Please explain whether or not the Postal Service culls out any letter-sized pieces, based on weight, prior to processing that occurs in the Outgoing Primary Manual operation. If the Service does so, at what weight level are letter-sized pieces culled out and how is this task accomplished?

**Response:**

(a) – (c) Like the AFCS, our letter automation equipment does not have a mechanism to weigh individual pieces. However, letter dimensions are used for various purposes including as a proxy for weight in mail processing. Pieces over 6 1/8 inches tall or over 1/4 inch are culled out by the AFCS as part of the mail preparation operation. For other automated operations, operators are looking for pieces outside of the machinability requirements (dimensions, flexibility, open edges) as well as if the mail properly faced. Automation compatibility dimensions, including additional machinability criteria for automation letters over 3 ounces, are located in DMM C810. If the letter does not meet the automation –compatible

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criteria, the equipment may jam, causing the machine to stop and possibly damaging the piece.

- (d) The Postal Service does not cull out letter-sized pieces, based on weight, in manual operations. Similar to above, the letter dimensions, not weight, are the driver of what volume is processed in the letter operations. The letter dimensions can be found in DMM C050.

DECLARATION

I, Linda Kingsley, declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing answers are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Linda A. Kingsley

Date: 4-4-2000

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon all participants of record in this proceeding in accordance with section 12 of the Rules of Practice.



Susan M. Duchek

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