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PRESIDING OFFICER'S
RULING NO. R2000-1/40
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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

Postal Rate and Fee Changes

Docket No. R2000-1

PRESIDING OFFICER'S RULING
ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR
RECEIVING INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES

(Issued April 17, 2000)

The Postal Service has filed responses to a number of discovery requests as an institution, that is, the answer is not attested to by a specific witness. Following the procedure in past cases, I am establishing dates for parties to designate for incorporation into the evidentiary record responses to discovery provided by the Postal Service as an institution. The date for such designations is May 4, 2000.


In general, institutional responses provide information participants seek in order to develop their evidentiary presentations. Nonetheless, due process provides that participants may request the appearance of a witness to explain an institutional response designated for incorporation into the evidentiary record. Requests of this nature are to be filed by May 8, 2000. It is my intention to hear any witnesses required to explain institutional discovery responses on May 11, 2000.

It is evident that Postal Service's witnesses will be continuing to provide responses to discovery requests, and to questions raised during the evidentiary hearings, after those witnesses have completed their oral testimony. I will allow the designation of such responses for incorporation into the evidentiary record on or before May 4, 2000. Requests for the opportunity to cross-examine on these responses may

be filed by May 8, 2000. Again, it is my intention to schedule any hearing for the conduct of such cross-examination for May 11, 2000. An additional opportunity to add to the evidentiary record responses provided by the Postal Service after May 1, 2000 will be scheduled.

RULING

1. Participants may designate institutional responses for incorporation into the evidentiary record by May 4, 2000.
2. Requests for cross-examination on institutional responses may be filed by May 8, 2000.
3. Hearings (if necessary) to conduct cross-examination concerning institutional responses will be held May 11, 2000.
4. Participants may designate for incorporation into the evidentiary record responses provided by Postal Service witnesses after their appearance by May 4, 2000.
5. Requests for cross-examination on responses provided by Postal Service witness after their appearance may be filed by May 8, 2000.
6. Hearings (if necessary) to conduct cross-examination concerning responses provided by Postal Service witnesses after their appearance will be held May 11, 2000.


Edward J. Gleiman
Presiding Officer