

BEFORE THE  
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON DC 20268-0001

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 2000

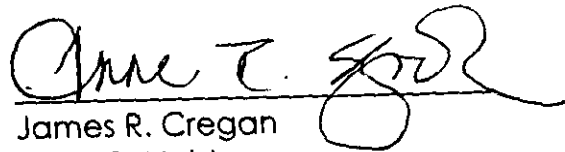
Docket No. R2000-1

FIFTH SET OF INSTITUTIONAL INTERROGATORIES OF  
MAGAZINE PUBLISHERS OF AMERICA, INC.  
TO UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
(MPA/USPS-48-51)

(MAY 3, 2000)

Pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Practice, Magazine Publishers of America, Inc. hereby submits the attached interrogatories (MPA/USPS-48-51) to United States Postal Service.

Respectfully submitted,



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**FIFTH SET OF INTERROGATORIES  
OF MAGAZINE PUBLISHERS OF AMERICA, INC.  
TO UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE**

**MPA/USPS-48.** Please refer to W/S 10.0.3 P1 in USPS LR-I-80, CS10.xls. This worksheet calculates the mail shape adjustment, which reclassifies Rural Carrier Cost System (RCCS) letters as flats to ensure that letters as a percentage of letters plus flats (the flats percentage) matches letters as a percentage of letters plus flats in the National Mail Count. Please provide a revised version of CS10.xls using a mail shape adjustment that is calculated using annual RCCS data.

**MPA/USPS-49.** Please refer to your response to MPA/USPS-1(b), which states that the RCCS survey "is designed to produce precise annual estimates, with a sample size of over 6,000 tests. However, for the four-week period of the National Mail Count, only 352 RCCS tests were conducted."

a. Please provide the coefficient of variation for the RCCS flats percentage derived from the 352 tests conducted during the four-week National Mail Count.

b. Please provide the coefficient of variation for the RCCS flats percentage derived from all 6,000 tests.

c. What percentage of RCCS tests during the four-week period were rescheduled due to conflicts with the National Mail Count?

**MPA/USPS-50.** Please confirm that the Postal Service has always used annual RCCS volumes (collected from the over 6,000 tests conducted throughout the entire year) to form the distribution keys used to allocate volume-variable rural carrier costs to mail subclasses.

**MPA/USPS-51.** Please refer to column 10 in W/S 10.1.1 in LR-I-80, CS10.xls.

a. Please confirm that the \$762,266,000 estimate listed in cell L12 is the Postal Service's estimate of total annual volume-variable cost for the delivery of flats. If not confirmed, please explain.

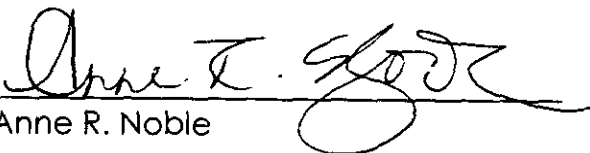
b. Please also confirm that this \$762,266,000 volume-variable cost, although an annual cost, is derived through an analysis of only four weeks of volume data collected during the National Mail Count. If not confirmed, please explain.

c. Please confirm that the Postal Service uses four weeks of National Mail

Count data to derive annual volume-variable cost estimates because it regards the average Mail Count volumes by shape as representative estimates of average volumes by shape for all of FY 1998.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this date served the foregoing document upon all participants of record in this proceeding in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice.

  
Anne R. Noble

Washington DC  
May 3, 2000