

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

**NOTICE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE CONCERNING  
COMPLIANCE WITH PRESIDING OFFICER'S RULING NO. R2000-1/41  
AND WITHDRAWAL OF INTENT TO REQUEST CERTIFICATION OF THAT RULING  
(May 3, 2000)**

By motion dated April 21, 2000, the United States Postal Service gave notice of its intent to request certification of Presiding Officer's Ruling No. R2000-1/41 (April 14, 2000). The Postal Service hereby gives notice that it no longer intends to request certification of that ruling.

Presiding Officer's Ruling No. R20001/41 required that the Postal Service produce (a) quarterly national aggregate service performance data generated by its Priority End-to-End (PETE) measurement system since its inception and (b) documents indicating how Priority Mail delivery service performance measurement is made under the PETE system. The Ruling indicated that documents describing PETE could be filed under protective conditions, if necessary.

The Postal Service is compiling responsive quarterly national aggregate PETE data and expects to be able to produce them in the form of a Library Reference before the conclusion of this week.

The Postal Service has identified two documents which form a description of the PETE system: the June 23, 1997, Statement of Work for External First-Class (EXFC) and Priority End-to-End (PETE) Time Transit Measurement and (b) a summary of changes to that Statement of Work (SOW). These two documents will be filed with the Commission tomorrow as USPS Library References I-315 and I-316, respectively.

Within the SOW, USPS-LR-I-315, the Postal Service has identified certain information which it considers to be commercially sensitive and proprietary. This information consists of point-to-point EXFC data contained in SOW Appendix XI. These data are outside the scope of information requested by the interrogatory to which the SOW responds. Rather than subject the SOW to protective conditions in order to avoid the public disclosure of these particular data, the Postal Service has redacted these data from Appendix XI of the copy of the SOW to be filed as USPS Library Reference I-315. The Postal Service considers that this approach strikes a fair balance between protecting its proprietary and commercially-sensitive interests and eliminating the burden that would otherwise be associated with interested parties obtaining access to the PETE system description in the SOW.

A second set of information the Postal Service will redact from the SOW (USPS-LR-I-315) is some of the information in Appendix II which indicates the color of specific types of EXFC test mail pieces. EXFC uses a wide variety of First-Class Mail piece types. The Postal Service considers that unrestricted dissemination of a complete description of test pieces has at least a very slight potential to diminish the integrity of EXFC testing. However, the non-disclosure of one characteristic of each mail piece type eliminates that slight possibility, avoids the need for protective conditions, and eases the burden of access to the other information in the SOW sought by UPS/USPS-T34-11.

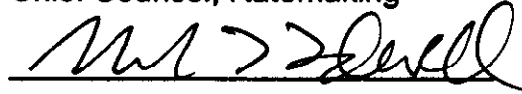
Finally, the Postal Service will provide the summary of changes to the SOW (USPS-LR-I-316) under protective conditions. The Postal Service considers that unfettered public access to this document has the potential to undermine the ability of the Postal Service to protect the integrity of the PETE system.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr.  
Chief Counsel, Ratemaking



Michael T. Tidwell

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20260-1137  
(202) 268-2998 Fax -5402  
May 3, 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.



Michael T. Tidwell

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20260-1137  
(202) 268-2998 Fax -5402  
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