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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

PRESIDING OFFICER'S  
RULING NO. R2000-1/71

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

Postal Rate and Fee Changes

Docket No. R2000-1

PRESIDING OFFICER RULING REVISING  
THE PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE TO ACCOMMODATE  
ACTUAL FY 1999 CRA COST DATA

(Issued May 26, 2000)

Order No. 1294 issued May 26, 2000 announced the Commission's intention to utilize actual FY 1999 CRA cost data in test year forecasts to the extent feasible consistent with providing due process to all participants. That order directed that the procedural schedule be adjusted to allow for the receipt of evidence presenting the roll-forward of these costs to the test year, and further to allow for participants to adjust their evidence to incorporate this information.

Currently, participants are reviewing the cases in chief of participants other than the Postal Service. Under the existing schedule, discovery on that evidence will be allowed through June 19, 2000 and hearings to receive this evidence will take place between July 6 – 21, 2000. These procedural dates need not be changed.

The Postal Service is to provide evidence detailing the basic update of its test year forecasts on or before July 7, 2000. The Postal Service may wish to develop additional adjustments to its test year projections, for example, to incorporate more recent inflation forecasts or program estimates. Additional adjustments to Postal Service test year forecasts should be submitted on or before July 21, 2000.

A series of informal technical conferences are to be held July 26 – 28. Postal Service witnesses sponsoring adjustments to the test year forecasts are to be available

on one or more of those dates to respond to "how" questions to clarify the revised forecasts. Participants with questions concerning the basic update should provide written notice of the subjects of their questions by July 24, 2000.

Hearings to receive evidence presenting the updated test year forecasts will take place August 3 and 4, 2000.

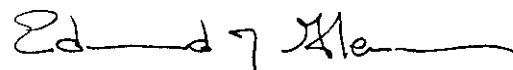
Currently evidence in rebuttal to the cases in chief of participants other than the Postal Service is to be filed on July 31, 2000, and hearings to receive this evidence are scheduled for August 9 – 17, 2000. These dates are postponed to allow for rebuttal incorporating updated test year forecasts, and if desired, rebutting some aspect of the updated test year forecasts. Any participants choosing to amend their case in chief as a result of the revised test year forecasts would do so at this time. Participants, including the Postal Service, may choose to propose different rates or different cost coverages than were proposed in their direct case. Such proposals must contain an explanation of the nexus between the change and the revised test year forecasts.

Evidence in rebuttal to participants other than the Postal Service, and evidence incorporating or rebutting updated test year forecasts is to be filed August 14, 2000. Hearings to receive this evidence will extend from August 23 – September 1, 2000.

Initial briefs will be due on or before September 13, 2000 and reply briefs will be due on or before September 22, 2000. Oral argument, if requested, will take place September 28 – 29, 2000.

#### RULING

The procedural schedule for this case has been revised as set out in Attachment A to this ruling.



Edward J. Gleiman  
Presiding Officer

REVISED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE  
POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES  
Docket No. R2000-1

May 22, 2000	Filing of the case-in-chief of each participant, including rebuttal to the Postal Service
June 19, 2000	Identify expected amount of oral cross-examination. Report on the availability of witnesses
June 19, 2000	Completion of discovery directed to intervenors and the OCA
June 29, 2000	Trial briefs of intervenors and the OCA
July 6 – 21, 2000	Evidentiary hearings on the cases-in-chief of intervenors and the OCA (9:30 a.m. in the Commission hearing room)
July 7, 2000	Submission of basic update to test year forecasts
July 21, 2000	Additional adjustments to test year forecasts (if desired)
July 26 – 28, 2000	Technical conferences on revised test year forecasts
July 31, 2000	Completion of discovery directed to the Service
August 3 – 4, 2000	Hearing to receive Postal Service revisions to test year forecasts
August 14, 2000	Filing of evidence in rebuttal to the cases-in-chief of participants other than the Postal Service (no discovery permitted on this rebuttal evidence; only oral cross-examination)

August 14, 2000	Filing changes to cases in chief incorporating revisions to test year forecasts (no discovery on this evidence; only oral cross-examination)
August 23 – September 1, 2000	Hearings on rebuttal to participants' direct evidence and changes to cases in chief (9:30 a.m. in the Commission hearing room)
September 13, 2000	Filing of initial briefs
September 22, 2000	Filing of reply briefs
September 28 – 29, 2000	Oral argument (if requested)