

BEFORE THE  
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268B0001

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 2000

Docket No. R2000-1

RESPONSES OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO INTERROGATORIES OF DOUGLAS CARLSON  
(DFC/USPS-115-117)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides its responses to the following interrogatories of Douglas Carlson: DFC/USPS-115 through 117, filed on July 24, 2000. Each interrogatory is stated verbatim and is followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

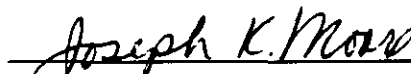
Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr.  
Chief Counsel, Ratemaking

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph K. Moore

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August 2, 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.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph K. Moore

**DFC/USPS-115.** Please refer to the response to STAMPS.COM/USPS-3.

- a. Please confirm that MLOCRs can and will read a delivery-point bar code located in the address block. If you do not confirm, please explain and reconcile your answer with the Docket No. R97-1 response to DFC/USPS-T4-14(c).
- b. Please confirm that an MLOCR that successfully reads a delivery-point barcode in the address block will not, under normal circumstances, spray a barcode on the bottom of the envelope. If you do not confirm, please explain.

**Response:**

- (a) Confirmed.
- (b) Confirmed.

**DFC/USPS-116.** Please refer to the response to DFC/STAMPS.COM-T1-12. Is witness Heselton correct in his description of Postal Service handling of incorrectly dated metered mail, and is he correct in stating that the Postal Service does not “generally” overcancel metered mail with the correct date? Please explain.

**Response:**

Witness Heselton is correct in his description of Postal Service handling of incorrectly dated metered mail. In his response to DFC/STAMPS-COM-T1-12, witness Heselton states, “[s]ince the question explicitly is limited to a situation that does not occur generally, the response that such mail would be overcancelled by the Service does not indicate that improperly dated IBIP and metered mail generally incurs additional processing costs, ....” Witness Heselton also states, “[a]dditional processing cost would occur only if the Postal Service accepted the mailing and overcancelled it with the correct date. This would not occur generally.”

Therefore, witness Heselton is correct in stating that the Postal Service does not ‘generally’ overcancel improperly dated IBIP and metered mail. Improperly dated mail is typically returned to the mailer and the correct date is applied. However, overcancellation does occur in the instance where the improperly dated mail has been accepted and processed by the Postal Service.

**DFC/USPS-117.** Please refer to the response to DFC/USPS-107. Do the costs of isolating and resolving problems with incorrectly dated IBIP and metered mail cause the total costs of processing this mail to be higher than the costs would be if the same mail pieces had the correct date? If not, please explain.

**Response:**

Although no studies have been conducted to quantify the cost that may be incurred to isolate and resolve problems with improperly dated IBIP and metered mail pieces, it would seem that this cost, when added to the cost of processing the mail, would be greater overall than if the same mail pieces had the proper date.