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PRESIDING OFFICER'S
RULING NO. R2000-1/109

POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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
DENYING DOUGLAS F. CARLSON
MOTION FOR LATE ACCEPTANCE OF INTERROGATORY

(Issued August 8, 2000)

On July 31, 2000, Douglas F. Carlson filed a motion for late acceptance of an interrogatory related to a July 28, 2000, *New York Times* article that describes the existence of delivery problems with certified mail.¹ The Postal Service filed an objection to the motion on August 7, 2000, alleging, among other claims, that the interrogatory was filed more than four months after the close of discovery.²

From time to time interesting articles will be published in the press concerning the Postal Service. The accuracy of statements made in news stories requires verification. However, barring extraordinary circumstances, the orderly administration of the rate case schedule dictates that the time for this type of discovery has expired. Mr. Carlson does not indicate that he seeks to use this information to develop evidence. Therefore, the Carlson Motion is denied because the interrogatory was filed well past the close of regular discovery.

¹ Douglas F. Carlson Motion for Late Acceptance of Interrogatory DFC/USPS-118 (filed July 31, 2000). Douglas F. Carlson Interrogatory to the United States Postal Service (DFC/USPS-118) (filed July 31, 2000).

² Opposition of United States Postal Service to Douglas F. Carlson Motion for Late Acceptance of Interrogatory DFC/USPS-118 (filed August 7, 2000).

RULING

The Douglas F. Carlson Motion for Late Acceptance of Interrogatory DFC/USPS-118 (filed July 31, 2000) is denied.



Edward J. Gleiman,
Presiding Officer