

RECEIVED

AUG 9 12 18 PM '00

POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

PRESIDING OFFICER'S
RULING NO. R2000-1/110

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
ON REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION OR RECONSIDERATION
OF PRESIDING OFFICER'S INFORMATION REQUEST NO. 18

(Issued August 9, 2000)

Presiding Officer's Information Request (POIR) No. 16 requested the Postal Service to provide revenue estimates by subclass and service that reflect FY 1999 billing determinants. The Postal Service responded to that request on July 27, 2000, providing an answer attested to by witness Mayes. Presiding Officer's Ruling No. R2000-1/104 designated that answer for incorporation into the evidentiary record.

On July 28, 2000 Presiding Officer's Information Request No. 18 was addressed to the Postal Service. It recited that the response to POIR No. 16 had presented "hybrid billing determinants" consisting of a mix of FY 1999 and FY 2000 data. It again requested that the Postal Service present revenue estimates reflecting adjusted FY 1999 billing determinants. It noted that in the initial Request in this case, the Postal Service had used adjusted billing determinants for a single year, FY 1998. It also requested a comparison of the advantages and disadvantages of using FY 1999 billing determinants adjusted in this fashion as opposed to using hybrid billing determinants.

The Postal Service now has requested clarification or reconsideration of POIR No. 18.¹ The Postal Service includes in its request extensive discussion responsive to the request for a comparison of the advantages and disadvantages of adjusted versus hybrid billing determinants. It explains that its use of hybrid billing determinants in the response to POIR No. 16 was not the result of its failure to understand the request, but rather a reflection of its firm belief that hybrid billing determinants were superior. Motion at 7-8.

In light of this explanation, I will release the Postal Service from the obligation to respond to POIR No. 18, question 1. However, I believe the evidentiary record will be enhanced if the analysis on this issue provided in the Motion is sponsored by a witness so that it can be made part of the evidentiary record.

RULING

The Motion of the United States Postal Service for Clarification or Reconsideration of Presiding Officer's Information Request No. 18 is granted in part. An answer to question one is no longer required. An answer to question two should be provided by August 16, 2000.



Edward J. Gleiman
Presiding Officer

¹ Motion of the United States Postal Service for Clarification or Reconsideration of Presiding Officer's Information Request No. 18 (Motion), filed August 1, 2000.