BEFORE THE POSTAL RATE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

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POSTAL RATE COMMENSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 2001

Docket No. R2001-1

PARTIAL OBJECTION OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO INTERROGATORY OF UNITED PARCEL SERVICE TO WITNESS TAKIS (UPS/USPS-T9-4) (October 22, 2001)

The United States Postal Service hereby objects to interrogatory UPS/USPS-T9-4 to witness Takis, in part. That interrogatory requests various termination and continuing costs for four separate contracts. Revealing the information requested would be harmful to the Postal Service's negotiating posture.

UPS/USPS-T9-4 provides:

Provide all termination costs and any continuing costs that the Postal Service has or will incur separately for each of the following contracts: ANET, WNET, TNET and the PMPC contract. If exact amounts are not available, provide the Postal Service's best available estimates of the termination costs for each contract.

The Postal Service currently is involved in ongoing in negotiations to attempt to settle all of these claims; some may be successfully settled and some may proceed to litigation. Thus, final termination and continuing costs have not been incurred. Moreover, to reveal what the Postal Service estimates will be incurred for each contract would obviously severely compromise the Postal Service's negotiating position, to the detriment of the Postal Service and to the ultimate detriment of postal ratepayers.

The Postal Service will provide a partial response to the interrogatory, revealing the estimate for the aggregate termination claims for ANET, WNET and TNET, as only an aggregate figure was included in the case. Also, the Postal Service will explain that no estimate of PMPC termination costs was included in the case. The Postal Service is unwilling to reveal more than this, for the reasons set forth above.

The Postal Service believes that its partial answer will suffice and that more should not be required.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

Den M. Kuche

By its attorneys:

Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr. Chief Counsel, Ratemaking

Susan M. Duchek

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.

Susan M. Duchek

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