

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

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Postal Rate and Fee Changes, 2001

Docket No. R2001-1

COMMENTS OF
THE NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
ON PETITION OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
FOR EXPEDITION
(October 23, 2001)

The Newspaper Association of America ("NAA"), hereby submits its comments on the Postal Service's motion for expedition in this proceeding.

NAA, whose members receive the vast majority of their revenue through First Class mail and depend upon the postal system for delivery of many of their products, understands the Postal Service's legitimate concern that it receive sufficient funds to maintain the sound operations. NAA also concurs with the comments filed recently by PostCom¹ to the effect that the Commission has demonstrated over the years that it can, where circumstances allow, process a case expeditiously, and render a decision even in a complex omnibus rate case, within the statutory deadline. At the same time, NAA would not expect the Commission to disregard its obligation to provide due process to all parties affected by the Postal Service's proposal.

Although the Postal Service petition did not propose any particular means by which these proceedings could be expedited, the PostCom response suggested one possible means by which the Postal Service could help to expedite this proceeding. A

¹ PostCom Response to the United States Postal Service Request for Expedition (filed Oct. 11, 2001).

similar means would be for the Service, in instances where an interrogatory response is ready before the 14-day deadline, not to wait until the last possible day to file the answer.

Respectfully submitted,

NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that I have this 23d day of October, 2001, caused to be served the foregoing document in accordance with sections 12 and 20(c) of the rules of practice.

William B. Baker
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