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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

PRESIDING OFFICER'S  
RULING NO. C2001-3/5

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Complaint on First-Class Mail Standards

Docket No. C2001-3

PRESIDING OFFICER'S RULING ON CARLSON MOTION  
FOR EXTENSION OF TIME  
TO RESPOND TO OBJECTION TO DFC/USPS-9

(Issued November 20, 2001)

Mr. Carlson moves for an extension of time (to December 3, 2001) to file a responsive pleading to the Postal Service's objection to providing a response to interrogatory DFC/USPS-9 without protective conditions.<sup>1</sup> In support of the extension, Mr. Carlson asserts that the additional time will allow him an opportunity to review Postal Service answers to other interrogatories expected to be filed, out of time, on November 23, 2001. He states that the Service is unwilling to consent to the requested extension in the absence of an explanation of the connection between the outstanding discovery requests and DFC/USPS-9.<sup>2</sup> Douglas F. Carlson Motion for an Extension of Time to Respond to Postal Service Objection to DFC/USPS-9, November 19, 2001 (Carlson Motion for Extension of Time), at 1-2.

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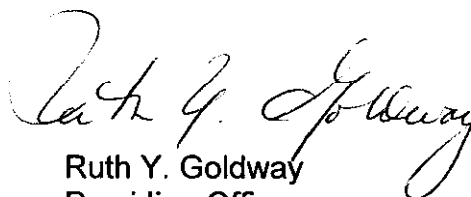
<sup>1</sup> The Service contends that all of the requested Origin-Destination data and some of the External First-Class (EXFC) data are commercially sensitive. It states that EXFC data that are publicly available will be provided. Objection of the United States Postal Service to Interrogatory of Douglas Carlson, November 6, 2001, at 3.

<sup>2</sup> In evaluating this motion, it is assumed that Mr. Carlson has correctly represented the Service's position.

The Carlson Motion for Extension of Time is granted. The Presiding Officer is aware that the press of events has made it difficult for all parties to meet procedural deadlines in this case. Some leeway is appropriate here, as circumstances have delayed timely responses and the requested extension is relatively short.

**RULING**

The Douglas F. Carlson Motion for an Extension of Time to Respond to Postal Service Objection to DFC/USPS-9, filed November 19, 2001, is granted. The new deadline for a responsive pleading is December 3, 2001.



Ruth Y. Goldway  
Presiding Officer