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

Postal Rate and Fee Changes, 2001	
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Docket No. R2001-1

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO INTERROGATORIES OF DAVID B. POPKIN (DBP/USPS-82(A))

The United States Postal Service hereby files its response to the following interrogatory of David B. Popkin: DBP/USPS– T82(a), filed on November 26, 2001. An objection to parts (b) and (c) was filed today.

The interrogatory is stated verbatim and is followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr. Chief Counsel, Ratemaking

Scott L. Reiter

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20260–1137 (202) 268–2999 Fax –5402 December 10, 2001

RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO INTERROGATORY OF DAVID B. POPKIN

DBP/USPS-82 The November 2001 issue of MailersCompanion issued by the Postal Service states on the headline on the front cover, "Rates and Fees Will Not Increase Before September 2002". [a] Is this still the current belief of the Postal Service?

RESPONSE:

(a). Yes. There is the possibility, however, that this could change if a settlement agreement is reached among the parties, if the settlement agreement encompasses an understanding concerning an earlier implementation date, if the Commission's recommendations are in accordance with the settlement agreement, if that process is completed in time to allow for an earlier implementation date, and if the Board of Governors ultimately sets such an implementation date.

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.

Scott L. Reiter

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20260–1137 December 10, 2001