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

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## POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 2001 )

@ Docket No. R2001-1

## VAL-PAK DIRECT MARKETING SYSTEMS, INC. AND VAL-PAK DEALERS' ASSOCIATION, INC. COMMENTS ON SETTLEMENT FILED IN ACCORDANCE WITH <u>PRESIDING OFFICER'S RULING NO. R2001-1/27</u> (January 16, 2002)

On December 31, 2001, Presiding Officer Omas issued Presiding Officer's Ruling ("POR") No. R2001-1/27, which established a schedule for intervenors to express either opposition to or acceptance of the proposed Stipulation and Agreement (filed December 17, 2001, and revised December 26, 2001). POR No. R2001-1/27 provided that intervenors who expect to oppose the settlement should file a Request to Cross-Examine on January 7, 2002 (which Valpak did, thereafter cross-examining Postal Service witnesses Hope and Kingsley), as well as a Notice of Opposition by January 18, 2002 (with the date advanced to January 16, 2002 by POR No. R2001-1/30, issued January 8, 2002). The Notice of Opposition was to describe the individual or categories of proposed rates, fees, or classifications in the proposed settlement which are opposed by the intervenor, as well as the nature of the opposition, and to identify the subject matter of any testimony the intervenor intends to submit in opposition to the proposed settlement.

Val-Pak Direct Marketing Systems, Inc. and Val-Pak Dealers' Association, Inc. ("Valpak") have engaged in settlement discussions with the Postal Service and other parties regarding slight changes in the proposed Stipulation and Agreement which they believed necessary to assure that certain of the classification changes and rates set out therein are consistent with the record herein. These negotiations have now led to an agreement with the Postal Service, and the Postal Service has advised Valpak that it will submit a further revised Stipulation and Agreement to the Commission as soon as it can be prepared. Accordingly, Valpak will make no further filing in response to POR No. R2001-1/27, and intends to submit its executed signature page to the further revised Stipulation and Agreement as soon as the agreed-upon revisions are filed with the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

Theh

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Counsel for: Val-Pak Direct Marketing Systems, Inc. and Val-Pak Dealers' Association, Inc.

## 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.

John S. Miles

January 16, 2002