

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

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 2001

Docket No. R2001-1

NOTICE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE DEFERRING PROPOSAL OF  
ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES  
(January 25, 2002)

In Ruling No. 27, the Presiding Officer outlined preliminary alternative procedural steps in connection with settlement in this docket.<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to the ruling, if the Commission were to conclude that there would not be sufficient time to consider opposition to the proposed settlement, and still to issue a Recommended Decision within the time frames contemplated by the Stipulation and Agreement, the Postal Service would propose alternative procedures for updating the record. Originally, the Commission was scheduled to assess the prospects for settlement on January 23, 2001, and the Postal Service would propose mechanisms and a schedule today.<sup>2</sup>

On January 17, 2002, the Presiding Officer made a preliminary finding that it would be possible to consider settlement, including opposition, and to issue a timely Recommended Decision.<sup>3</sup> In light of that conclusion, and in light of the progress made

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<sup>1</sup> Presiding Officer's Ruling Noticing the Submission of a Proposed Stipulation and Agreement and Canceling Hearings on January 3, 4, 7, and 8, 2002, POR R2001-1/27, Docket No. R2001-1, at 9 (Dec. 31, 2001).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

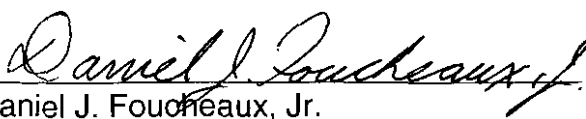
<sup>3</sup> Presiding Officer's Ruling on the Status of the Proposed Stipulation and Agreement, POR R2001-1/36, Docket No. R2001-1 (Jan. 17, 2002).

toward settlement to date,<sup>4</sup> the Postal Service will not propose alternative procedures at this time. The Postal Service notes, however, that under the terms of the Stipulation and Agreement, several events could trigger dissolution of the settlement agreement. While the Postal Service is unaware of any circumstances at present that would be likely to lead to that result, it will reserve the option to propose alternative procedures, should they become necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorney:

  
Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr.  
Chief Counsel, Ratemaking

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January 25, 2002

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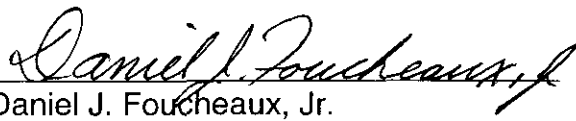
<sup>4</sup> Currently 56 out of 62 participants have adhered to the Stipulation and Agreement. A listing of signatories is attached.

## LIST OF SIGNATORIES

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ADP</li> <li>2. AOL Time Warner</li> <li>3. Advo, Inc.</li> <li>4. Alliance of Independent Store Owners and Professionals</li> <li>5. Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers</li> <li>6. Amazon.com</li> <li>7. American Bankers Association</li> <li>8. American Business Media</li> <li>9. American Library Association</li> <li>10. Association for Postal Commerce</li> <li>11. Association of Alternate Postal Systems</li> <li>12. Association of American Publishers</li> <li>13. Association of Leading AG Media Companies</li> <li>14. Banta Corporation</li> <li>15. Brown Printing Co.</li> <li>16. Classroom Publishers Association</li> <li>17. Coalition of Religious Press Associations</li> <li>18. Continuity Shippers Association</li> <li>19. Direct Marketing Association</li> <li>20. Dow Jones &amp; Co.</li> <li>21. EDS Customer Relationship Management</li> <li>22. Envelope Manufacturers Association</li> <li>23. Experian</li> <li>24. Greeting Card Association</li> <li>25. Hallmark Cards, Inc.</li> <li>26. The Hearst Corporation</li> <li>27. Keyspan Energy</li> <li>28. Knight-Ridder, Inc.</li> <li>29. Lifetime Addressing, Inc.</li> <li>30. Long Island Power Authority</li> <li>31. Magazine Publishers of America</li> <li>32. Mail Order Association of America</li> <li>33. Mailing and Fulfillment Services Association</li> <li>34. Major Mailers Association</li> <li>35. McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.</li> <li>36. Leonard Merewitz</li> <li>37. National Association of Letter Carriers</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>38. National Association of Presort Mailers</li> <li>39. National Association of Postmasters of the United States</li> <li>40. National Federation of Independent Publications</li> <li>41. National League of Postmasters</li> <li>42. National Newspaper Association</li> <li>43. National Retail Federation</li> <li>44. Newspaper Association of America</li> <li>45. Office of the Consumer Advocate</li> <li>46. Parcel Shippers Association</li> <li>47. Peter J. Moore &amp; Associates</li> <li>48. Pitney Bowes, Inc.</li> <li>49. R.R. Donnelley &amp; Sons Company</li> <li>50. Reader's Digest Association</li> <li>51. Recording Industry Association of America</li> <li>52. Saturation Mail Coalition</li> <li>53. Stamps.Com</li> <li>54. United Parcel Service</li> <li>55. Val-Pak Dealers' Association, Inc.</li> <li>56. Val-Pak Direct Marketing Systems, Inc.</li> </ol> |
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## 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.

  
Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr.

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January 25, 2002