

ORDER NO. 1344

May 24 1 57 PM '02

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

Before Commissioners:

George A. Omas, Chairman;
Ruth Y. Goldway, Vice Chairman;
and Dana B. Covington

International Mail Report

Docket No. IM2002-1

FIFTH NOTICE OF INTERNATIONAL MAIL
DATA REQUIREMENTS FOR FY 2001

(Issued May 24, 2002)

In order to help the Commission prepare the report required by 39 U.S.C. Section 3663, on the costs, volumes, and revenues of the Postal Service's international mail services, the Service is requested to provide the following information on or before May 30, 2002. The short requested time frame reflects the limited remaining time for preparation and review of the report and the urgency with which the information is needed.

1. In the response to item 15.b. of the First Notice, the Postal Service provided revenue, cost, and volume data excluding ICM mail. Using this data, the Commission developed cost coverages for ICM mail and non-ICM for selected mail categories. Global Express Mail and Air Parcel Post exhibit anomalous or counter intuitive results. ICM mail within one of these categories has an unexpectedly low cost coverage which may be the result of an error. ICM mail within the other category has a cost coverage greater than

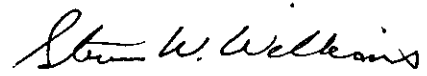
for non-ICM mail. For that category, the unit revenue and unit attributable cost are lower for ICM mail than for non-ICM mail.

- a. For the category with the unexpectedly low cost coverage, please explain why it is so low or provide corrected figures, as applicable.
 - b. For the category whose ICM component has a higher cost coverage than its non-ICM component, please explain the counter intuitive cost coverage or provide corrected figures, as applicable. Please explain how the costs for non-ICM mail within this category were derived.
2. This item refers to Chapter 8 of Workpaper 1B.
- a. Initially in the chapter, it appears that the reference period for the survey is the calendar quarter; however, later in the presentation it appears to be a year. What is the reference period for the survey?
 - b. Chapter 8 comments that the data for the surface transportation mode are collected for an entire month as opposed to a sample of days. It is not apparent from this comment why the sample size is 12. Please elaborate.
 - c. Are data collected every day of the month for surface transportation?
 - d. The Postal Service explains that for surface transportation the primary sample units are stratum mail flow months. How are the months sampled?
 - e. Please describe in detail the subsampling methodology applicable to the selection of mail receptacles.

It is ordered:

The Postal Service is directed to provide the items in the body of this order on or before May 30, 2002.

By the Commission
(SEAL)


Steven W. Williams
Secretary