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

RECEIVED D1 SEP 15 4 57 PH '97 SEP 15 4 57 PH '97 POSTAL RATE COMMING FOR OFFICE OF THE GEORE FARY Docket No. R97-1

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 1997

REVISED RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO INTERROGATORY OF THE NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (NAA/USPS-14)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides its revised response to the following interrogatory of the Newspaper Association of America: NAA/USPS–14, filed on August 29, 1997. Only the response to NAA/USPS-14(e) is revised, to reflect the fact that, although an objection to part (e) was filed on September 8, 1997, the Postal Service nonetheless is today filing a redacted copy of a responsive contract in library reference H-257.

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

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

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By its attorneys:

Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr. Chief Counsel, Ratemaking

David H. Rubin

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20260–1137 (202) 268–2986; Fax –5402 September 15, 1997

RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO INTERROGATORIES OF NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

NAA/USPS-14.

- a. Please confirm that the United State [sic] Postal Service is providing lockbox service for American Express in a Staten Island facility.
- b. Is this lock-box service a "postal service" requiring a recommendation by the Postal Rate Commission?
- c. Will this lock-box service give rise to attributable costs in the Test Year? If so, please quantify those costs and provide an appropriate citation. If not, please explain why not.
- d. Were that service to be provided on a below-cost basis, would that service not be subsidized by other mail services?
- e. Please provide a copy of the contract, including the financial terms.

RESPONSE:

- a. Not confirmed. The Postal Service does not know what is meant by "lockbox service." However, the Postal Service is providing a retail remittance processing service for American Express.
- With respect to the remittance processing service (see the response to part a), no.
- With respect to the remittance processing service (see the response to part a), no. Any test year costs for this service are treated as "Other" costs.
- d. The service would not be subsidized by classes or subclasses of mail, or special services, except in the unlikely circumstance that the service were

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offered on a below-cost basis over the duration of the contract, during a period of time in which the Postal Service broke even overall.

 e. Objection filed September 8, 1997. A redacted copy of the remittance processing services agreement between American Express and the Postal Service is being filed in library reference H-257.

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.

Ho Rubin

David H. Rubin

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20260–1137 September 15, 1997