

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 2005

Docket No. R2005-1

**COMMENTS OF AMERICAN BANKERS ASSOCIATION AND NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF PRESORT MAILERS UPON USPS REQUEST FOR EXPEDITION**

(May 2, 2005)

The AMERICAN BANKERS ASSOCIATION ("ABA") and the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRESORT MAILERS ("NAPM") hereby file the following comments upon the USPS Request for Expedition and Early Consideration of Procedures Facilitating Settlement Efforts (April 8, 2005).

While ABA and NAPM continue to maintain an open mind with the respect to the prospects for settlement of this case, we believe that it is premature at this point in time to establish an expedited procedural schedule for this case. In particular, we have reservations as to the May 27, 2005, date which the Postal Service has suggested for End of Discovery against Postal Service in the Suggestions for Procedural Schedule attached to the USPS Request for Expedition.

The Commission will always have the flexibility to modify its procedural schedule at a later date if it then appears that a substantial number of parties have joined in a settlement, and that a 10 month procedural schedule is no longer necessary. However, the Commission should not at this early date issue a procedural schedule which would deny the parties the option to have full and meaningful discovery on what is clearly a complex Postal Service case.

Respectfully submitted,

AMERICAN BANKERS ASSOCIATION
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