

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

Postal Rate and Fee Changes, 2005

Docket No. R2005-1

**COMMENTS OF PITNEY BOWES INC. IN SUPPORT OF
POSTAL SERVICE REQUEST FOR EXPEDITION**

Pursuant to Order 1436 and Section 21 of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 39 C.F.R. § 3001.21, Pitney Bowes Inc. (Pitney Bowes) submits these comments in support of the United States Postal Service's April 8, 2005 "Request for Expedition and Early Consideration of Procedures Facilitating Settlement Efforts."

Pitney Bowes is mindful that the prospect of settlement in this case is a key element of the Postal Service's request and that the Postal Service maintains that early resolution of this case is necessary to achieving its financial objectives. Pitney Bowes also agrees that Postal Service's request for a moderate across-the-board increase should facilitate an early settlement.

Postal Rate Commission
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Accordingly, Pitney Bowes supports the Postal Service's request for expedition and commends the Commission for accelerating the date for submission of notices of interventions and for promptly scheduling the prehearing and settlement conferences. Pitney Bowes is hopeful that the Commission will continue to expedite the proceedings, while ensuring that all interested parties are afforded sufficient opportunity to conduct discovery until a settlement is finalized.

Respectfully submitted,

_____/s/_____
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