

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

PARCEL RETURN SERVICE

Docket No. MC2006-1

STATEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
CONCERNING COMPLIANCE WITH FILING REQUIREMENTS
AND CONDITIONAL MOTION FOR WAIVER
(October 17, 2005)

In the Compliance Statement (Attachment E) to the Request, the Postal Service has identified information contained in its testimony and supporting documentation intended to satisfy the filing requirements in pertinent provisions of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Rules 54 and 64). The Postal Service has supplemented materials developed specifically for this filing by incorporating documentation that was submitted by the Postal Service in connection with the most recent omnibus rate proceeding, Docket No. R2005-1. In light of several considerations, the Postal Service believes that most of the specific requirements pertaining to classes of mail and special services are met by incorporating the materials from these rate cases.

The proposed Parcel Return Service would not materially alter established rates, fees, and classifications. Rather, the proposal would make permanent certain experimental classifications with the rates already proposed in Docket No. R2005-1. Moreover, these have only a limited impact on overall postal costs, volumes, and revenues.

As outlined in the testimony filed with the Request, Parcel Return Service would constitute a relatively minor addition to the array of mail classes and special services being considered in Docket No. R2005-1. As a consequence, there is substantial overlap between the information sought through general filing requirements and the materials provided in that docket. For example, certain filing requirements call for information pertaining to the full spectrum of postal products: e.g., Rule 54(b)(3) (economic substitutability between classes and subclasses); Rule 54(d) (physical attributes of mail by class and subclass); Rule 54(f)-(h) (total historical and projected costs separated by postal and nonpostal services and distributed to classes, subclasses, and special services); Rule 54(j) (revenues and volumes projected for classes, subclasses, and special services); and Rule 54(l) (billing determinants for classes, subclasses, and special services). These requirements are adequately addressed through reference to information provided in the omnibus rate proceeding, especially where, as here, the proposal is limited.

In assessing compliance in this regard, substantial weight should be given to the nature of the proposed classification and its operations, and the small magnitude of its impact on costs, volumes, and revenues in total and for particular mail categories and services. In the event that total cost-revenue relationships might be affected by converting Parcel Select Return Service from an experiment to a permanent classification, any changes to those relationships are likely to be so minor as not to warrant amendment of the rate case testimony, beyond the addition of information provided in this docket.

In the Compliance Statement, we have addressed each filing requirement and indicated which parts of the Postal Service's filing satisfy each rule. We have also incorporated the Docket No. R2005-1 materials by reference. Specific direction to the rate case testimony addressing each rule can be found in the Compliance Statement filed with the Postal Service's Request in that docket.¹ We have addressed the filing requirements applied in connection with requests made pursuant to Rules 54 and 64.

If the Commission concludes that the materials imported from Docket No. R2005-1 to satisfy general filing requirements are not sufficient, and that strict construction of the rules regarding information pertaining to other mail and special services would require testimony that was developed specifically with reference to the proposed Parcel Returns Service, the Postal Service respectfully moves that those requirements be waived, pursuant to 39 C.F.R. §§ 3001.22, 3001.54(r), 3001.64(h)(3), and 3001.67a.

For the reasons stated above, the nature of the proposed classification, combined with its small impact on total costs and revenues, and on the costs, volumes,

¹ See Request of the United States Postal Service for a Recommended Decision on Changes in Rates of Postage and Fees for Postal Services, Docket No. R2005-1, Attachment F (April 8, 2005).

and revenues of mail categories, do not warrant strict compliance with the filing requirements, and they should be waived.²

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

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² As reflected in the Compliance Statement, Attachment E to the Request in this case, full or partial waivers are requested with respect to the following rules: 54(b)(1)-(4), 54(c), 54(d), 54(e), 54(f)(2)-(3), 54(h)(1)-(12), 54(i), 54(j)(1)-(7), 54(l), 64(b)(1)-(4), 64(c)(1)-(3), 64(d), and 64(h).