

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

EVOLUTIONARY NETWORK DEVELOPMENT
SERVICE CHANGES, 2006

Docket No. N2006-1

RESPONSES OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS WILLIAMS
TO OCA INTERROGATORIES OCA/USPS-T2-17 AND 18
(May 8, 2006)

The United States Postal Service hereby submits the response of witness Williams to the following interrogatory of the Office of the Consumer Advocate, filed on May 3, 2006: OCA/USPS-T2-17 and 18. Each interrogatory is stated verbatim and followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

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**RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS WILLIAMS
TO INTERROGATORY OF THE OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE**

OCA/USPS-T2-17. The following interrogatory refers to your revised May 1, 2006, testimony, at pages 15. You indicate that “the Postal Service intends to provide appropriate public notice if a particular study results in a determination to implement operational changes that affect the manner in which existing service standards apply to 3-digit Zip Code origin-destination pair.” You then go on to describe the procedure for soliciting public input regarding service standard upgrades and/or downgrades and “any material service changes that are a part of that proposal.”

- a. Will public notice of consolidation be provided even if the study indicates there will not be any changes affecting existing service standards applied to 3-digit ZIP Code origin-destination pairs?
- b. Does the Postal Service’s commitment to provide appropriate public notice of consolidation studies and to undertake the described procedures regarding “material service changes” prior to submitting the proposal to the Senior Vice-President, Operations at Headquarters, for a final decision apply if there are only indicated changes in collection box times and/or indicated changes in carrier delivery times but no upgrades or downgrades of 3-digit ZIP Code origin-destination pairs?

RESPONSE

- a) Yes.
- b) The commitment is to have such a meeting in relation to each AMP, irrespective of whether the AMP pre-decisional package projects or proposes any such impacts.

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OCA/USPS-T2-18. The following interrogatory refers to your revised May 1, 2006 testimony, at pages 15 – 16. You indicate that at least 10 days prior to a local meeting those individuals identified previously on the AMP Worksheet 3 will be sent a letter and a local press release will be issued regarding a public meeting to discuss the pending consolidation. You also indicate that the press release will direct interested parties to the USPS website www.usps.gov where the applicable AMP summary will be provided as well as the title and address of the postal official to whom comments should be directed.

- a. Please provide the specific length of time those comments will be accepted prior to a declared deadline. (For example, 10 days, 15 days, etc.)
- b. Please provide the title of the postal official who will be accepting the comments and the address of that official. If the official title is not currently available, please identify the office title and its address.
- c. What is the title of the postal representative(s) who will be briefing the public and soliciting comments, at the AMP public meetings?
- d. What is the title of the postal official or the title of the Headquarters' office where the public's comments will be directed?
- e. Will the comments directed to the Postal Service's website and the comments solicited at the public meetings be summarized and provided to the public on the Postal Service's website? If not, please fully explain why not.
- f. If your response to part e of this interrogatory is affirmative, will the USPS post on its website the official responses to those comments? If not, please explain how the public will get feedback from the Postal Service regarding their comments?
- g. Please provide a sample copy of each document that will be used in notifying the public of a meeting as well as a sample form to be used to record and report public comments.
- h. At what point in the decision process, will the Senior Vice-President, of Operations at Headquarters be given the comment summaries to review? If the Senior Vice-President will not be given the comments, how will those comments be taken into final consideration?
- i. Will the input from the public and/or the summary of comments from the public meeting be considered by the Postal Service at the District or local level to determine whether it may be appropriate to revise or alter the AMP decision prior to forwarding the consolidation proposal to headquarters?

RESPONSE

- a) Comments will be accepted for a 15 day period.

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RESPONSE to APWU/USPS-18 (continued)

- b) The Consumer Affairs Manager for the District in which the operation consolidation may occur will accept written comment. The address to which comments should be directed will be posted as part of each public notice.
- c) The District Manager is responsible for coordinating the public meeting. The titles and responsibilities of persons who will be representing the Postal Service at any of these meetings are expected to vary.
- d) A summary of the public's comments will be directed to the USPS headquarters AMP Coordinator in Processing Operations.
- e) Comments will not be accepted online at www.usps.com. The website will contain a summary of the AMP impacts and an address where comments can be mailed. Comments are solicited for the sole purpose of providing them to Headquarters for consideration. The Postal Service has no need to post them on the website for this purpose.
- f) Outside of efforts to be responsive to relevant AMP-related service questions during the public meeting, the Postal has no plans to respond in writing to each person who may submit written comments. The Postal Service's commitment is to determine whether the public comments it receives raise issues that merit consideration before a final decision and then to consider those comments before making that decision.

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RESPONSE to APWU/USPS-18 (continued)

- g) Communication templates are being developed for notification of the public meeting to all Worksheet #3 recipients of the study notification. A Public Input Summary sheet is also being developed which will categorize comments into several areas including Service Standards, Customer Service, Community Concerns, Political Issues, and concerns related to the AMP process.
- h) The Senior Vice-President will be provided a summary of the public input comments along with the finalized AMP study for consideration and decision.
- i) Yes.