

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

COMPETITIVE PRODUCT PRICES
PARCEL SELECT & PARCEL RETURN SERVICE
PARCEL SELECT & PARCEL RETURN SERVICE CONTRACT 2

Docket No. MC2009-40

COMPETITIVE PRODUCT PRICES
PARCEL SELECT & PARCEL RETURN SERVICE CONTRACT 2
(MC2009-40)
NEGOTIATED SERVICE AGREEMENT

Docket No. CP2009-61

**RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO REQUEST FOR SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION IN ORDER NO. 288**

The United States Postal Service hereby provides responses to the requests for supplemental information contained in Order No. 288. Each question is state verbatim and is followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
By its attorneys:

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1. In the Postal Service's Application for Non-Public Treatment of Materials, section (3), the Postal Service states: "However, in a limited number of cases, narrative passages or notes were redacted in their entirety due to the practical difficulties of redacting particular words or numbers within the text as presented in a spreadsheet format." Request, Attachment F, at 3. In accordance with 39 CFR 3007.10(c), please indicate the number of lines or number of pages removed at each redaction.

RESPONSE:

Although the exact import of what was intended by the quoted sentence may not be clear in isolation, it may help to consider it in context:

To the extent practicable, the Postal Service has limited its redactions in the workpapers to the actual information it determined to be exempt from disclosure under 5 U.S.C. § 552(b). However, in a limited number of cases, narrative passages or notes were redacted in their entirety due to the practical difficulties of redacting particular words or numbers within the text as presented in a spreadsheet format.

This was meant to explain that within a spreadsheet cell, it is not possible to redact part of the cell using the graphical redaction method, only the entire cell. Thus, it may be necessary in such cases to redact particles of information that are not, standing alone, exempt from disclosure. An example might be a note entered within a single cell in a spreadsheet that states: "Based on total costs of \$10 million." Technically only the phrase "\$10 million" is exempt from disclosure, and not the words "Based on total costs of." Because it is not possible to graphically redact part of a cell, the whole note is redacted. However, it was the Postal Service's intention to indicate the number of columns and the number of rows that the note occupied. (This was done by first filling in the columns and rows that the text actually occupied with black and then deleting the text entered into the first cell.) The amount of material redacted should therefore be discernable, keeping in mind that the cells' boundaries might be slightly larger than the

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space the text actually occupies. There do not appear to be instances of graphical redactions underestimating the space occupied by the redacted material. The redactions therefore seemed to be consistent with the method required by rule 3007.10(c) and no further justification or elucidation of the redaction seemed to be needed. If any redactions are identified that are not as described herein, the Postal Service will provide appropriate corrections.

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2. The cost coverage in the Governors' Decision differs from the calculated cost coverage in the accompanying spreadsheets filed under seal. Please explain this discrepancy.

RESPONSE:

The cost coverage differs as the result of the correction of an error as well as the incorporation of updates to the Global Insight inflation factors that became available after the Governors' Decision.