

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

STATION AND BRANCH OPTIMIZATION AND
CONSOLIDATION INITIATIVE, 2009

Docket No. N2009-1

STATUS REPORT OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
CONCERNING RESPONSES TO COMMISSION INFORMATION REQUEST NO. 1
(QUESTIONS 15, 16 AND 20)
(August 28, 2009)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides the following status report concerning overdue responses to Questions 15, 16 and 20 of Commission Information Request No. 1.

Questions 16 and 20

The Postal Service expects to file responses to Questions 16 and 20 tomorrow, August 28, 2009. Question 16 generally requests information for each of the stations and branches discontinued during Fiscal Years 2005 through 2008. Question 20 requests a copy of the contents of the Post Office Discontinuance Tracking System (PODTS). Review of the contents of the PODTS, which is in the process of being replaced, reveals historical data entry deficiencies that can be corrected sufficiently to allow a reliable response to Question 16. However, these deficiencies suggest that the system as a whole falls short as a reliable source of accurate historical data. Nevertheless, it is expected to be provided tomorrow.

Question 15

The response to Question No. 15 is expected to be filed on Wednesday, September 2, 2009. That question requests certain data for each of the stations and branches that are candidates for discontinuance review as a part of the initiative under review in this docket. Originally estimated to be at least 3200, that number is expected to be approximately 3600.

As a related matter, the Postal Service is preparing to supplement USPS Library Reference N2009-1/4 on September 2nd. Originally filed on July 30th, that Library Reference contains a list of 677 stations and branches that, as of July 28th, had been identified by the SBOC initial pre-screening process as candidates for further discontinuance study. Further progress in pre-screening of additional facilities and corrections to the original list indicate an increase in that number to approximately 750. The initiation of discontinuance studies in the field has led to numerous discontinuance feasibility determinations. Accordingly, it is expected that the September 2nd update to USPS Library Reference N2009-1/4 also will identify the subset of these approximately 750 stations and branches that, as of September 2nd, remain as candidates for discontinuance review. Subsequent updates if Library Reference N2009-1/4 will report further changes in facility status.

The narrowing of the scope to fewer than 750 stations and branches, as will be reflected in the September 2nd Library Reference N2009-1/4 update, motivates the Postal Service to request the Commission's reconsideration of its original request for all seven of the data elements enumerated in Question 15 for all of the approximately 3600 original candidate stations and branches. Accordingly, in a motion to be filed before

September 2nd, the Postal Service will request permission to provide all of those data elements only for the stations and branches identified in the updated version of USPS Library Reference N2009-1/4, while providing only data elements (1) and (2) for the approximately 2900 stations and branches that will not be reflected in the update to that Library Reference.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

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