

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Before Commissioners:

Ruth Y. Goldway, Chairman;  
Tony L. Hammond, Vice Chairman;  
Mark Acton;  
Dan G. Blair; and  
Nanci E. Langley

Investigation of Suspended Post Offices

Docket No. PI2010-1

ORDER GRANTING MOTION OF THE  
PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES

(April 1, 2010)

I. INTRODUCTION

The Public Representatives request that comments filed through March 2, 2010 in the public commenter file associated with Docket No. PI2010-1 be included in the formal docket for this proceeding.<sup>1</sup>

The Public Representatives state that these comments were placed in the public commenter file because they were not filed electronically or submitted with a request for waiver of the electronic filing requirement. *Id.* at 1. Some of these comments were mailed to the attention of the Public Representatives by individuals and groups who are not regular participants in Commission proceedings in the belief that this was the proper

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<sup>1</sup> Motion of the Public Representatives to Include Public Comments in Docket, March 9, 2010 (Motion).

method for submitting comments. *Id.* at 1-2. Comments in hardcopy form were also received by the Office of Public Affairs and Government Relations. *Id.* at 2.

The Public Representatives argue that all of the comments addressed to the attention of the Public Representatives and received by the Office of Public Affairs and Government Relations should be included in the formal docket. The Public Representatives contend that including the comments would satisfy the apparent expectations of the individuals and groups who submitted them. They add that including the comments would ensure that all participants are aware of the existence of the comments and therefore able to respond if desired. *Id.*

The Public Representatives attached copies of the comments to their Motion as Attachment – Part A and Attachment – Part B.

## II. DISCUSSION

In Order No. 335, the Commission solicited comments from interested persons, including members of the public who are patrons of suspended post offices.<sup>2</sup> Comments were received in various forms and formats. Some were filed electronically, using the Commission's Filing Online protocol. See 39 CFR 3001.9-12. Others, as the Public Representatives note, were addressed to the Public Representatives or Office of Public Affairs and Government Relations in hardcopy form. See 39 CFR 3001.20b, which permits informal statements of views which may be submitted in hardcopy form.

The nature of a public inquiry docket such as this one is to serve as a vehicle for obtaining relevant information and views. The items in the attachments to the Motion were transmitted to the Commission with the expectation that they would be considered in the proceeding. No opposition to making them a part of the record in this case has been lodged.

The Motion is granted to the extent that the comments will be included in the record. However, out of concern for commenters' privacy, the Commission will redact

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<sup>2</sup> Notice and Order Providing an Opportunity to Comment, November 9, 2009 (Order No. 335).

certain personal information from the comments to be posted on its website. The information redacted, addresses (including email addresses) and phone numbers, is extraneous to the substance of the comments. While comments submitted to the public commenter file are available for inspection at the Commission's offices, posting them on the web exposes them to broader distribution. Because all commenters may not wish to have such information posted on the web, the Commission *sua sponte* has determined to redact that information out of an abundance of caution. The redacted comments will be substituted for the comments attached to the Public Representatives' motion as if filed contemporaneously therewith.

*It is Ordered:*

The Motion of the Public Representatives to Include Public Comments in Docket, filed March 9, 2010, is granted set forth in the body of this Order.

By the Commission.

Shoshana M. Grove  
Secretary