

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

SIX-DAY TO FIVE-DAY CARRIER DELIVERY  
AND RELATED SERVICE CHANGES, 2010

Docket No. N2010-1

RESPONSES OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO INTERROGATORIES OF DAVID B. POPKIN (DBP/USPS-30-35)  
(May 17, 2010)

The United States Postal Service hereby responds to the following  
interrogatories of David B. Popkin, filed on May 3, 2010:

DBP/USPS-30-35

Each interrogatory is reprinted below, and followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

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Docket No. N2010-1

RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO INTERROGATORY OF DAVID B. POPKIN

**DBP/USPS-30** [a] Please confirm, or explain if you are unable to confirm, that there are a number of post offices that have retail window service hours on a weekday that extend beyond the time by which it is possible to dispatch the mail to the processing plant that day. For example, an office that has Friday window service from 9 AM to 5 PM and the final trip to the processing plant which leaves before 5 PM.

[b] Please confirm, or explain if you are unable to confirm, that in the example noted in subpart [a], there will be a period of time on Friday where mail which is tendered over the retail window will not be dispatched to the processing plant until Saturday.

[c] Please confirm, or explain if you are unable to confirm, that if the proposed docket is approved, this mail [except for Express Mail] which is tendered over the retail window on Friday after the final dispatch will be dispatched to the processing plant so as to have a day 0 of Monday.

[d] Please advise the percentage of post offices countrywide that have a period of retail window service on Friday where the mail is dispatched to the processing center so as to have a day 0 of Saturday. If an exact percentage is not available, please provide the best estimate.

**RESPONSE:**

[a] Confirmed.

[b] Confirmed.

[c] Confirmed.

[d] A “best estimate” of the percentage of post offices with retail hours on Friday that include some time after the final dispatch is 15 percent. This estimate does not include CPU locations.

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**DBP/USPS-31** For purposes of this interrogatory assume the following scenario - a blue collection box located at a city delivery post office for which a 5 PM or later weekday collection time is mandated based on the location and/or mail volume at that box, however, for whatever reason, the final weekday collection time is posted and made at 4 PM. The box also has a Saturday collection.

[a] Please confirm, or explain if you are unable to confirm, that under the present conditions if a mailer deposits a letter in this collection box at 4:30 PM on a Friday and the letter is destined to an overnight area that letter will be delivered on Monday; if destined to a 2-day delivery area that letter will be delivered on Monday, and if destined to a 3-day delivery area that letter will be delivered on Tuesday.

[b] Please confirm, or explain if you are unable to confirm, that under the proposed conditions if a mailer deposits a letter in this collection box at 4:30 PM on a Friday and the letter is destined to an overnight area that letter will be delivered on Tuesday; if destined to a 2-day delivery area that letter will be delivered on Wednesday, and if destined to a 3-day delivery area that letter will be delivered on Thursday.

[c] Please confirm, or explain if you are unable to confirm, that if the Postal Service followed its own policies and collected this box at 5 PM and if a mailer deposits a letter in this collection box at 4:30 PM on a Friday and the letter is destined to an overnight area that letter will be delivered on Saturday; and if destined to a 2-day or 3-day delivery area that letter will be delivered on Monday.

**RESPONSE:**

[a] Confirmed.

[b] Confirmed.

[c] Confirmed. In the current operating environment, the item would be delivered on Saturday. Under the five-day plan it would be delivered on Saturday if it is addressed to a post office box.

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**DBP/USPS-32** Please refer to your response to Interrogatory DBP/USPS-8.

- [a] If mail is dispatched every evening, does this apply to all offices?
- [b] If not, please explain.
- [c] What is the earliest time a mail dispatch could take place at a given post office and still be considered as an evening dispatch?

**RESPONSE:**

- [a] Yes.
- [b] Not applicable.
- [c] The answer to this question will vary widely by location. Some facilities have limited retail services only, which could make their final dispatch as early as mid-morning. The last dispatch of the day that will carry committed mail is based on a number of factors including operational needs and distance to host plant.

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**DBP/USPS-33** Please refer to your response to Interrogatory DBP/USPS-10. For each of the 70-some odd postal districts in the country, please advise the percentage of the facilities that have retail window service on Saturday. Please provide a separate percentage considering main offices only and a second percentage for all facilities including stations and branches.

Please provide the data showing a separate response for each of the Districts.

**RESPONSE:**

A partial objection was filed to this interrogatory.

From a national standpoint, 86.8 percent of main offices have retail window service on Saturday, and 81.6 percent of all facilities, including stations and branches, have retail window service on Saturday.

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**DBP/USPS-34** Please refer to your response to Interrogatory DBP/USPS-1.

[a] You indicated that some 479 locations do not provide weekend access to post office boxes. By weekend access, do you mean both Saturday and Sunday or either Saturday or Sunday?

[b] Please provide the reason[s] why these some 479 locations do not provide six-day a week mail delivery.

[c] Please confirm, or explain if you are unable to confirm, that all of the offices in the country except for these 479 locations will have incoming mail six days a week, will sort this mail and place it into the boxes, and customers will have access to their boxes and to pick-up mail that is not placed in the box.

**RESPONSE:**

[a] The 479 locations currently do not receive delivery, or have a measured post office box ("PO Box") up time, on Saturday. PO Box up time is not measured on Sunday in any location.

[b] PO Box services are scheduled to meet the needs of the customers in the local area.

[c] Locations with PO Boxes will receive services six days per week, except for the locations discussed in [a] and [b]. As has always been the case, the number of locations that do not receive Saturday PO Box services may change based on operational needs.

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**DBP/USPS-35** Please refer to your response to Interrogatory DBP/USPS-1.

You indicate that the challenges presented by non-letter shaped mail are a matter of ongoing development. Please advise the current status of this activity and when you expect the matter to be fully resolved.

**RESPONSE:**

As stated in the response to DBP/USPS-1, the Postal Service intends, under the proposed operating environment, to maintain its ability to deliver the same mail to post office boxes on Saturday as is delivered under the current operating environment. As also stated in that response, it will be more challenging to conform to these intentions with respect to non-letter mail. Plans to surmount those obstacles are under development, and it is not possible at this time to estimate when the matter will be “fully resolved.”