

# DOCKET SECTION

ORDER NO. 1208

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

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Before Commissioners: Edward J. Gleiman, Chairman;  
George W. Haley, Vice Chairman;  
W. H. "Trey" LeBlanc III;  
and George A. Omas

Postal Rate and Fee Changes

Docket No. R97-1

## ORDER GRANTING LATE INTERVENTION

(February 23, 1998)

On February 19, 1998, the Commission received a Notice of Intervention by the American Beekeeping Federation, Inc. (Beekeepers) requesting formal intervention in accordance with Commission Rule of Practice and Procedure 20. 39 C.F.R. § 20. The Beekeepers also have submitted a Motion for Leave to Intervene (Motion).

In their Motion the Beekeepers explain that they wish to intervene for the "limited purpose of opposing the proposed Special Handling Rate Increase." Motion at 1. They contend that the proposed 220% increase in Special Handling Rates would "make use of Special Handling by Beekeepers practically and economically unavailable." Notice of Intervention at 1.

The Beekeepers are aware of the fact that their filing is well after the date for intervention as of right, but state that they were limited by their Constitution and Bylaws to wait in filing their request for intervention until authorized by their members at its annual meeting. That meeting was held in January 1998, well past the deadline for intervention. Motion at 1.

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The Commission seeks to obtain relevant evidence from all sectors of the mailing public, and late intervention is generally allowed, so long as participants accept the procedural status of the case. Due to the limited scope of this request, and the negative impact which such an increase would impose on the Beekeepers, the Commission will grant this request, subject to (a) compliance with rulings and orders already issued and (b) oppositions filed by other participants pursuant to Rule 20(d). 39 C.F.R. § 3001.20(d).

It is ordered:

The American Beekeeping Federation, Inc. Motion for Leave to Intervene, filed February 19, 1998, is granted, subject to compliance with rulings and orders already issued and to timely objections.

By the Commission.

(S E A L)

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Cyril J. Pittack".

Cyril J. Pittack  
Acting Secretary