

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

Rate Adjustment Due to Extraordinary or  
Exceptional Circumstances

Docket No. R2010-4

PRESIDING OFFICER'S INFORMATION REQUEST NO. 8

(Issued September 1, 2010)

The Postal Service is requested to respond to the following questions to clarify the record on its proposed rate adjustments under 39 U.S.C. § 3622(d)(1)(E) and 39 CFR § 3010.60 of the Commission's rules for rate adjustments in exigent circumstances, filed July 6, 2010. To facilitate inclusion of the required material in the evidentiary record, the Postal Service is to have a witness attest to the accuracy of the answers. Responses should be provided no later than September 9, 2010.

1. In the written response to a question posed to witness Neri at the August 12, 2010 hearing, dated August 19, 2010, the Postal Service stated that, from FY 2006 through FY 2009, productivity for Flats Operations at MODS offices increased 35.2%. On August 27, 2010, a supplemental response was filed, providing additional details concerning flat preparation hours.
  - a. Please provide the spreadsheets and source data used in the calculation of "Flats Hours" and "Volume" for FY 2006 to "July TYD FY10".
  - b. Please provide the spreadsheets and source data used in the calculation of "Flats Dist Hours" and "Flat Prep Hours" for FY 2006 to "July TYD FY10".
  - c. Please provide the spreadsheets and source data used in the calculation of "Dist Volume" and "Mail Prep Volume" for FY 2006 to "July TYD FY10".
  - d. Please provide comparable information for non-MODS facilities, with spreadsheet and source data.

2. In response to POIR No. 5, Question 27, the Postal Service estimates that approximately “39.7 percent of the flat-shaped mail receives an Incoming Secondary sort at the delivery unit[.]”
  - a. Please provide the spreadsheets and source data used in the calculation of this information.
  - b. Please provide the percentage of flat-shaped mail that received an Incoming Secondary sort at the delivery unit for each year from FY 2006 through FY 2009.
  - c. Please provide a description of the FLASH data system, including data inputs and extraction methods.
  - d. Please confirm that the flats sorted to carrier route at the delivery unit are sorted manually.
  - e. Please provide the percentage of machinable flats that receive a manual incoming secondary sort for the following classes of mail:
    - i. All Classes
    - ii. First-Class
    - iii. Periodicals
    - iv. Standard
  - f. In the USPS-FY09-11 file “PER OC fls.xls”, cell 0114 contains an estimate of the “Proportion of IS Flats on Mechanized equipment” of 83.51%. This implies that 16.49% of flats receive a manual Incoming Secondary sort. Please reconcile this figure and the 39.7% cited in response to POIR No. 5, Question 27.

3. In the written response to a question posed to witness Neri at the August 12, 2010, hearing, dated August 19, 2010, the Postal Service stated that productivity in flats operations at MODS facilities improved by 35.2% from FY 2006 through FY 2009. In the response to POIR No. 5, Question 27, the Postal Service states that 39.7% of flat-shaped mail receives an Incoming Secondary sort at the delivery unit.
  - a. Please refer to the 2009 ACR file USPS-FY09-LR-26 "shp09prc.xls". Please provide the information for FY 2006 in the same format as the foregoing file.
  - b. Has the increase in productivity at MODS facilities been offset by additional costs incurred at non-MODS offices? If not, please explain.

Ruth Y. Goldway  
Presiding Officer