

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

SIX-DAY TO FIVE-DAY STREET DELIVERY
AND RELATED SERVICE CHANGES

DOCKET NO. N2010-1

RESPONSES OF PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES' WITNESS LUTTRELL
TO UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE INTERROGATORY
(USPS/PR-T2-31)

The Public Representatives hereby provide the responses of witness Edward Luttrell (PR-T-2) to United States Postal Service interrogatories USPS/PR-T2-31. The interrogatory is set out in its entirety and followed by a response.

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES

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TO UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE INTERROGATORY USPS/PR-T2-31**

USPS/PR-T2-31

Please refer to page 3, line 23 of your testimony where you state:

Grange members believe that it is currently impossible to segregate critical delivery items from the general delivery items among the postal service's deliveries every day.

(a) Please indicate your understanding of the degree to which the current Mail Classification Schedule offers service and product choices that allow mail senders and recipients to select different dispatch, processing and delivery options for items they deem "critical" and "general."

(b) Please identify the persons or entities for whom it is impossible to segregate "critical delivery items" and "general delivery items" among those delivered by the Postal Service each day.

Response:

USPS/PR-T2-31(a)

I don't pretend to be an expert on the U.S. Mail classification system. However, I also think there is no question that the current Mail Classification Schedule offers service and product choices for the expedition of critical items. These different classifications come with differing price scales though, as well. For example, if I get an infection and my doctor gives me a prescription for antibiotics, that my insurance company will only pay for if I use a mail-order pharmacy system, I may or may not be able to rush that prescription. However, if I chose to do so and the carrier is the U.S. Postal Service, I am forced to pay more. The following information comes from www.usps.gov.

Express Mail®	Overnight, most locations	From \$13.65	Prices based on weight and distance Flat rate envelope available!
Priority Mail®	1- 3 days	From \$4.90	Prices based on weight and distance Flat rate options available!

USPS/PR-T2-31(b)

Response:

With the possible exception of people regularly engaged in shipping operations, it is already difficult to segregate critical items from general delivery items, *i.e.*, non-critical items due to the fact that to some degree, any given item may be considered critical or non-critical simply due to timing differences. For example, in terms of medicines, delivery time is critical if you are about to run out, but less so if you have a greater supply remaining. A reduction in delivery days complicates the decisions faced by a person using mail order pharmacies.

Otherwise, the National Grange does not have specific information and/or data related to the inquiries concerning the potential adverse effect from reduced mail delivery services from six days to five for rural postal customers who rely on six day postal delivery to insure prompt delivery of critical items such as pharmaceuticals. We view our role in these proceedings as primarily sharing the grassroots generated concerns of our members with the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) in order to develop a full record. However, during my travels working with local Grange chapters this year, I have repeatedly encountered individual Grange members who have expressed concerns to me related to the impacts of reduced mail delivery on delivery of critical items such as pharmaceuticals, especially for those rural residents who depend on volunteer, in-home care.