

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

Before Commissioners:

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

Competitive Product Prices
Priority Mail
Priority Mail Contract 31

Docket No. MC2011-10

Competitive Product Prices
Priority Mail Contract 31 (MC2011-10)
Negotiated Service Agreement

Docket No. CP2011-46

NOTICE AND ORDER CONCERNING ADDITION OF PRIORITY MAIL
CONTRACT 31 TO THE COMPETITIVE PRODUCT LIST

(Issued December 17, 2010)

I. INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3642 and 39 CFR 3020.30 *et seq.*, the Postal Service filed a formal request and associated supporting information to add Priority Mail Contract 31 to the competitive product list.¹ The Postal Service asserts that Priority Mail Contract 31 is a competitive product “not of general applicability” within the meaning of 39 U.S.C.

¹ Request of the United States Postal Service to Add Priority Mail Contract 31 to Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing (Under Seal) of Contract and Supporting Data, December 16, 2010 (Request).

3632(b)(3). *Id.* at 1. The Postal Service states that the prices and classification underlying this contract are supported by Governors' Decision No. 09-6 in Docket No. MC2009-25. *Id.* The Request has been assigned Docket No. MC2011-10.

The Postal Service contemporaneously filed a contract related to the proposed new product pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3632(b)(3) and 39 CFR 3015.5. The instant contract has been assigned Docket No. CP2011-46.

Request. In support of its Request, the Postal Service filed six attachments as follows:

- Attachment A—a redacted copy of Governors' Decision No. 09-6, originally filed in Docket No. MC2009-25, authorizing certain Priority Mail contracts;
- Attachment B—a redacted copy of the contract;
- Attachment C—a proposed change in the Mail Classification Schedule competitive product list;
- Attachment D—a Statement of Supporting Justification as required by 39 CFR 3020.32;
- Attachment E—a certification of compliance with 39 U.S.C. 3633(a); and
- Attachment F—an application for non-public treatment of materials to maintain redacted portions of the contract and supporting documents under seal.

In the Statement of Supporting Justification, Josen Punnoose, Manager, Shipping Support (A), Shipping Services, asserts that the service to be provided under the contract will cover its attributable costs, make a positive contribution to institutional costs, and increase contribution toward the requisite 5.5 percent of the Postal Service's total institutional costs. *Id.*, Attachment D. Thus, Mr. Punnoose contends there will be no issue of subsidization of competitive products by market dominant products as a result of this contract. *Id.*

Related contract. A redacted version of the specific Priority Mail Contract 31 is included with the Request. The contract will become effective on the day that the

Commission provides all necessary regulatory approvals. The contract states it “shall expire 3 years from the effective date, unless (1) terminated by either Party with 30 days notice to the other Party in writing....” The Postal Service represents that the contract is consistent with 39 U.S.C. 3633(a). *Id.*, Attachment D.

The Postal Service filed much of the supporting materials, including the specific Priority Mail Contract 31, under seal. It maintains that the contract and related financial information, including the customer’s name and the accompanying analyses that provide prices, terms, conditions, cost data, and financial projections should remain under seal. *Id.*, Attachment F. It also requests that the Commission order that the duration of such treatment of all customer-identifying information be extended indefinitely, instead of ending after 10 years. *Id.* at 7.

II. NOTICE OF FILINGS

The Commission establishes Docket Nos. MC2011-10 and CP2011-46 for consideration of the Request pertaining to the proposed Priority Mail Contract 31 product and the related contract, respectively.

Interested persons may submit comments on whether the Postal Service’s filings in the captioned dockets are consistent with the policies of 39 U.S.C. 3632, 3633, or 3642 and 39 CFR part 3015 and 39 CFR 3020, subpart B. Comments are due no later than December 29, 2010. The public portions of these filings can be accessed via the Commission’s website (<http://www.prc.gov>).

The Commission appoints Derrick D. Dennis to serve as Public Representative in these dockets.

III. ORDERING PARAGRAPHS

It is ordered:

1. The Commission establishes Docket Nos. MC2011-10 and CP2011-46 for consideration of the matters raised in each docket.
2. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Derrick D. Dennis is appointed to serve as officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in these proceedings.
3. Comments by interested persons in these proceedings are due no later than December 29, 2010.
4. The Secretary shall arrange for publication of this Order in the *Federal Register*.

By the Commission.

Shoshana M. Grove
Secretary