

ORDER NO. 1215

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

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

Postal Rate and Fee Changes

Docket No. R97-1

ORDER ALLOWING PARTICIPANT COMMENTS
ON MATTERS RETURNED FOR RECONSIDERATION

(July 8, 1998)

On June 29, 1998, the Governors of the Postal Service substantially accepted the Commission's May 11, 1998 Opinion and Recommended Decision in this docket. The Governors returned to the Commission three matters for reconsideration, concerning Periodicals, Within County, per piece discounts, Standard Mail, Parcel Post Destination Delivery Unit rates, and Standard Mail Library. A Statement of the United States Postal Service Regarding Reconsideration (Statement) was filed July 7, 1998, suggesting procedures for reconsideration.

The Postal Service states its view that the evidentiary record should be adequate to support any necessary further recommendations, but it believes participants should be provided with an opportunity to submit technical or legal written documents on the three matters returned to the Commission. The Commission will allow other participants an opportunity to present justification for reopening the evidentiary record, but in the absence of persuasive arguments, it will reconsider the issues identified by the Governors on the basis of the existing evidentiary record. Motions suggesting that the Commission should reopen the evidentiary record, or adopt other special procedures, are to be filed by July 20, 1998.

The Commission will allow participants the opportunity to present written comments on the issues returned for reconsideration. Unless the evidentiary record is reopened, written comments are to be submitted on or before July 30, 1998. Reply comments may be submitted until August 11, 1998.

It is ordered:

1. Participants may submit procedural suggestions for reconsidering issues returned by the Governors on or before July 20, 1998.

2. Subject to subsequent procedural rulings adjusting this schedule, comments on the matters returned for reconsideration are to be submitted on or before July 30, 1998, and reply comments are to be submitted by August 11, 1998.

By the Commission.

(S E A L)


Cyril J. Pittack
Acting Secretary