

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

Before Commissioners:

Robert G. Taub, Acting Chairman;  
Tony Hammond, Vice Chairman;  
Mark Acton;  
Ruth Y. Goldway; and  
Nanci E. Langley

Competitive Product Prices  
Global Expedited Package Services 3 (MC2010-28)  
Negotiated Service Agreements

Docket No. CP2014-78

ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR TEMPORARY RELIEF

(Issued October 20, 2015)

The negotiated service agreement approved in this proceeding (Existing Agreement) is scheduled to expire on October 31, 2015.<sup>1</sup> The Postal Service has filed a motion for temporary relief requesting extension of the expiration date to November 30, 2015.<sup>2</sup>

The Postal Service states that it intends to send a modification to its customer that states that the agreement that is the subject of this docket will expire on November 30, 2015. Motion at 1. The Postal Service states further that it intends to initiate a new

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<sup>1</sup> Order Approving Modification Two to Global Expedited Package Services 3 Negotiated Service Agreement, September 16, 2015, at 2 (Order No. 2715).

<sup>2</sup> Motion of the United States Postal Service for Temporary Relief Concerning Global Expedited Package Services 3 Negotiated Service Agreement, October 15, 2015 (Motion).

rate docket in which it will file a successor to the Existing Agreement. *Id.* To maintain continuity of pricing and other terms and conditions of the Existing Agreement, the Postal Service requests the Commission to approve an extension to allow the Existing Agreement to remain in effect and on the Mail Classification Schedule through November 30, 2015. *Id.*

The request for temporary relief filed in this docket is not unique. Indeed, it is part of a growing pattern. On the same day it filed its Motion, the Postal Service sought temporary relief to extend the expiration date of another Global Expedited Package Services 3 negotiated service agreement.<sup>3</sup> On October 8, 2015, the Postal Service filed a second request for temporary relief to extend the expiration date of a Priority Mail Contract 40 negotiated service agreement.<sup>4</sup>

In Order No. 2753, issued October 15, 2015, the Commission reiterated its expectation that “any future extensions ‘should state with particularity the circumstances necessitating the additional extension.’”<sup>5</sup> The same expectation applies to the pending Motion in this docket. In making its request, the only support offered by the Postal Service for temporary relief is its assertion of the desirability of maintaining continuity of pricing and other terms and conditions pending institution of the new rate docket in which it intends to file a successor agreement. Motion at 1.

The Commission, however, recognizes that Order No. 2753 was issued on the same day that the Motion was filed in this docket and was, therefore, not available to the Postal Service at the time it submitted its Motion. Under these circumstances and in light of the absence of any known harm to the public interest or prejudice to any party, the Commission grants the Motion.

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<sup>3</sup> See Docket No. CP2014-68, Motion of the United States Postal Service for Temporary Relief Concerning Global Expedited Package Services 3 Negotiated Service Agreement, October 15, 2015.

<sup>4</sup> Docket No. CP2012-46, Motion of the United States Postal Service for Temporary Relief, October 8, 2015.

<sup>5</sup> Docket No. CP2012-46, Order Granting Second Motion for Temporary Relief, October 15, 2015 (Order No. 2753) at 2 (*citing* Order No. 2660, Order Granting Motion for Temporary Relief in Part, August 12, 2015, at 2).

The Existing Agreement may continue through and will expire on November 30, 2015, unless terminated earlier pursuant to the terms of the agreement.

*It is ordered:*

1. The Motion of the United States Postal Service for Temporary Relief, filed October 15, 2015, is granted.
2. The Existing Agreement will remain on the Mail Classification Schedule through November 30, 2015, unless terminated earlier pursuant to the terms of the agreement.

By the Commission.

Ruth Ann Abrams  
Acting Secretary