

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

Service Performance Measurement
Systems For Market Dominant Products

Docket No. PI2015-1

CHAIRMAN'S INFORMATION REQUEST NO. 6

(Issued November 18, 2015)

To clarify the proposals presented by the Postal Service in its Docket No. PI2015-1 Service Performance Measurement plan, the Postal Service is requested to provide a written response to the following questions.¹ Answers to the questions should be provided as soon as they are developed, but no later than December 9, 2015.

1. On pages 7-12 of the Statistical Design Plan, the Postal Service discusses the First Mile collection profile.
 - a. Please define the term "configurable cut-off time" as used in the discussion of the First Mile collection profile.
 - b. Please provide the following concerning density testing:
 - i. For the five most recent fiscal years, please include the percentage of collection boxes included in density testing (overall and by district), if the data are available.
 - ii. For FY 2016 service performance measurements, will the Postal Service only use data from density testing performed in FY 2015, or will density testing data collected in previous years be included in

¹ The United States Postal Service, Service Performance Measurement, Revised March 24, 2015 plan filed March 24, 2015, is referred to as the "Postal Service Plan" throughout this information request. The Informed Visibility (IV) Statistical Design Plan for Internal Service Performance Measurement, dated August 19, 2015, filed August 25, 2015, is referred to as the "Statistical Design Plan" throughout this information request.

the calculations? If previous years' data are included, please explain how the data are incorporated.

- iii. If density data are not available for one or more days of the week, the Postal Service describes a method for estimating unavailable data (page 8). Please describe the steps that the Postal Service has taken to verify the accuracy of this estimation methodology.
 - iv. Does density testing account for mailpiece volumes at time increments (*e.g.*, 10 pieces at 10:00 a.m., 50 pieces at 1:00 p.m., 100 pieces at 5:00 p.m., etc.)? If so, what time increments are used to record mail volume?
2. On pages 12-15 of the Statistical Design Plan, the Postal Service discusses the methodology for calculating the carrier sampling profile.
- a. Please list the 3-digit ZIP Codes (and corresponding District) that will be excluded from the Carrier Sampling process.
 - b. Describe the methodology used to determine the “configurable number of letters and flats” sampled at collection points.
 - c. Further explain the terms “FPO1” and “FPO2.”
 - d. What is the estimated percentage of FPO2 mail volume for FY 2016 ($FPO2/(FPO1+FPO2)$)?
 - e. How will the Postal Service ensure the appropriate sample size of FPO2 mail?
3. On page 15 of the Statistical Design Plan, the Postal Service states: “[t]he proposed solution for First Mile measurement of single-piece mail entered at retail locations is to leverage all Point of Sale (POS) scan data for First-Class Mail with Special Services, such as Certified Mail.” For FY 2016, what is the

estimated percentage and volume of retail-entered First-Class Mail that will have a First Mile measurement based on Special Services scans?

4. Please confirm that the configurable maximum number of pieces at a given delivery point is 5 to 7 pieces per sampling group. If not confirmed, please explain what the expected configurable maximum number of pieces will be for a given sampling group.
5. On page 19 of the Statistical Design Plan, the Postal Service lists the seven sampling groups for Last Mile sampling: (1) Single-Piece and Presort First-Class Mail Flats; (2) Periodicals Letters and Flats; (3) Presort First-Class Mail Letters/Cards; (4) Single-Piece First-Class Mail Letters/Cards-Remittance and Reply Mail; (5) Single-Piece First-Class Letters/Cards – All Other; (6) Standard Mail and Bound Printed Matter Flats; and (7) Standard Mail Letters/Cards. Please explain the difference between the Standard Mail included in sampling group six and in sampling group seven.
6. On page 27 of the Postal Service Plan, the Postal Service states: “randomly-selected delivery point sample requests will be encrypted and transmitted to mailpiece scanning devices of postal delivery and box section personnel, where they will lay dormant until, for example, a letter carrier breaches the geo-fences surrounding a delivery point identified in the encrypted message.”
 - a. Please confirm that every delivery point may potentially receive a prompt from the device.
 - b. What is the radius of the “geo-fence” surrounding a delivery point?
 - c. Does the geo-fence radius/size change according to delivery point? If confirmed, please explain.

By the Acting Chairman.

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