

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

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 2006

Docket No. R2006-1

RESPONSES OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO INTERROGATORIES OF DOUGLAS CARLSON
(DFC/USPS-78 AND 79)

The United States Postal Service hereby files its institutional responses to the following interrogatories of Douglas Carlson, filed on September 27 and October 16, 2006, respectively. Each interrogatory is stated verbatim and is followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

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**RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO INTERROGATORY OF DOUGLAS CARLSON**

DFC/USPS-78. Please refer to the response to DBP/USPS-605 and to proposed DMM section 604.1.10, which appears in the notice published at 71 Fed. Reg. 56,587 on September 27, 2006.

- a. Please state whether this proposed DMM section is consistent with the DMCS language relating to the “Forever Stamp” that the Postal Service has proposed in this proceeding. If the Postal Service’s proposed DMCS language is not consistent with this proposed DMM section, please provide a date by which the Postal Service will propose new DMCS language, or please indicate whether the Postal Service will support the DMCS language proposed in DFC-T-1.
- b. Please state whether the Postal Service anticipates the need for additional DMM sections to implement the Postal Service’s proposed DMCS language related to the “Forever Stamp” (e.g., to implement the restriction on the types of mail on which a “Forever Stamp” can be used), either for the rate cycle that will implement Docket No. R2006-1 rates and fees or for subsequent rate cycles.
- c. If the proposed DMM section is implemented, may customers use “Forever Stamps” to pay the postage on all mail for which customers can use stamps to pay the postage (such as, but not limited to, First-Class flats and Priority Mail parcels)? If the answer is not yes, please explain.
- d. If the proposed DMM section is implemented, would “Forever Stamps” provide postage value equal to the current rate for single-piece, one-ounce First-Class letters for all mail for which customers can use stamps to pay the postage (such as, but not limited to, First-Class flats and Priority Mail parcels)? If the answer is not yes, please explain.
- e. If the answer to part (c) or (d) would differ depending on whether the “current rate” is in the rate cycle that will implement Docket No. R2006-1 rates and fees or a subsequent rate cycle, please explain.

RESPONSE

- a. It is.
- b. The DMM notice-and-comment process and internal deliberations that follow will inform the Postal Service’s judgment as to the DMM language appropriate to implement the Docket No. R2006-1 rate cycle.

Experience will inform the Postal Service’s judgment thereafter.
- c-d. Affirmed. See the revised response to DBP/USPS-541.
- e. N/A.

**RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO INTERROGATORY OF DOUGLAS CARLSON**

DFC/USPS-79. Please refer to the revised response to DBP/USPS-340 and 341.

- a. Please discuss the extent to which the Postal Service's proposed implementation of the "Forever Stamp" proposal is consistent with the DMCS language proposed in DFC-T-1.
- b. Please discuss the extent to which the Postal Service's proposed implementation of the "Forever Stamp" proposal is not consistent with the DMCS language proposed in DFC-T-1.
- c. Please discuss the extent to which the Postal Service supports the DMCS language proposed in DFC-T-1.

RESPONSE

a-c. The major difference between the responses to DBP/USPS-340 and 341 and the DMCS language proposed in DFC-T-1 is that DFC-T-1 proposes that the intended purpose of the Forever Stamp be for use on all mail classes; in contrast, the Postal Service's interrogatory responses emphasize that the intended use of the Forever Stamp is on one-ounce single-piece First-Class Mail letter shaped pieces, and that other uses will be tolerated but not encouraged. Like the proponent of the language in DFC/USPS-T-1, the Postal Service supports only the DMCS language that it has proposed.