

Before the
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Competitive Product Prices
Global Direct Contracts
Negotiated Service Agreement

Docket No. CP2009-18

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE SURREPLY COMMENTS
ON ORDER NO. 159

(January 7, 2009)

The Public Representative has reviewed with interest the Postal Service's reply comments filed in this docket,¹ and appreciates Postal Service counsel's clarity and candor in explaining and amplifying certain points originally raised in the Public Representative's Comments.

While the Public Representative does find merit in some (but not all) of the discussion points raised by the Postal Service, the information shared casts illumination on important policy issues for the benefit of the general public (including the business community).

The discussion usefully highlights the significance of these complex international mail policy issues within the framework of privileges and obligations in which the Postal Service operates, as well as the intrinsic difficulties in balancing the Service's ability to operate flexibly and seize competitive opportunities, yet not unduly restrain competition in the marketplace in ways precluded by the PAEA statute.

¹ Reply of United States Postal Service to Public Representative Comments in Response to Order No. 159, January 7, 2009.

These are not simple questions -- the willingness of the Postal Service to more fully express (and where necessary, reiterate) its views is, as always, helpful in advancing the public discourse.

The Public Representative respectfully submits the preceding Comments for the Commission's consideration.

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Public Representative

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