

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

CONFIRM

Docket No. MC2002-1

REQUEST OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
FOR A RECOMMENDED DECISION ON CLASSIFICATION
AND FEES FOR CONFIRM

The United States Postal Service has developed and applied technology that uses a new form of bar code ("PLANET Codes") in connection with mail processing to help commercial mailers track individual automation-compatible letter-size and flat mail pieces. This process has been designated "Confirm." In accordance with chapter 36 of title 39, United States Code, the Postal Service has determined that the establishment of a new, permanent Confirm service and classification, with corresponding fees, would be in the public interest and consistent with the policies and applicable criteria of that title. Accordingly, the Postal Service requests that the Postal Rate Commission submit a recommended decision to the Governors of the Postal Service supporting the implementation of that classification and the corresponding fees.

This Request does not encompass any changes to the existing classifications or rates for the classes and subclasses of mail or to the nature of, or fees for, existing special services not specifically addressed herein. The Postal Service accordingly does not intend to open up for consideration any classifications, rates or fees, other than those within the scope of this Request.

The proposals embodied in the instant Request are consistent with the Commission's and the Governors' findings and conclusions in Docket No. R2001-1. As indicated in witness Kiefer's testimony (USPS-T-5), test year (FY2003) projected

revenues and expenses for Confirm are \$9.2 million and \$5.0 million, respectively. The resulting \$4.2 million in projected income would not affect materially the revenue findings projected for FY 2003 in Docket No. R2001-1.

The requested amendments to the Domestic Mail Classification Schedule include a new section 990 titled "Mailpiece Information" embracing new subsection 991 "Confirm", and corresponding Fee Schedule 991. These will further the general policies of efficient postal operations and reasonable rates and fees enunciated in the Postal Reorganization Act. See 39 U.S.C. §§ 101(a), 403(a), and 403(b). The requested changes also conform to the criteria of 39 U.S.C. §§ 3622(b) and 3623(c).

In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (particularly, 39 C.F.R. §§ 3001.54 and 3001.64), the Postal Service files with this Request the prepared direct evidence on which it proposes to rely, which consists of five pieces of testimony, including exhibits and workpapers. The page following this Request is an index of Attachments. The testimony, exhibits and workpapers of each witness have been marked for identification as shown in Attachment E. Further data submitted for informational purposes or in response to specific sections of the Rules of Practice are included in the other Attachments.

The instant filing includes incorporation by reference of materials submitted with the Postal Service's Request in Docket No. R2001-1. The Postal Service believes that its submissions comply with the Commission's filing requirements in Rules 54 and 64 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure (39 C.F.R. §§ 3001.54 and 64).¹ If the Commission concludes otherwise, the Postal Service has respectfully moved, in the alternative, for a waiver of the pertinent filing requirements in Rules 54 and 64. *Id.*

¹ See Statement of United States Postal Service Concerning Compliance with Filing Requirements and Conditional Motion for Waiver, Docket No. MC2002-1 (April 24, 2002).

WHEREFORE, the United States Postal Service, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. §§ 3622(a) and 3623(b), hereby requests that the Postal Rate Commission make and submit a recommended decision to the Governors supporting the proposed revisions to Domestic Mail Classification Schedule § 991 and Fee Schedule 991, as set forth in Attachments A and B to this Request.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

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