

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

Before Commissioners:

George Omas, Chairman;
Tony Hammond, Vice Chairman;
Dana B. Covington, Sr.; and
Ruth Y. Goldway

Complaint of Time Warner Inc., et al.
Concerning Periodicals Rates

Docket No. C2004-1

NOTICE OF INQUIRY NO. 1 CONCERNING PERIODICALS DATA

(November 19, 2004)

During the November 17, 2004 hearing, certain additional data on Periodicals was requested from the Postal Service in the interest of developing an adequate record. Tr. 5/1526-1530. In addition, at the close of the hearing, counsel for the National Newspaper Association (NNA) offered to provide certain data on newspapers. Tr. 5/1654-1655. The Commission is also interested in learning whether any other participants will make available any additional data on characteristics of Periodicals that may be relevant to this case. Accordingly, the Commission seeks the following:

I. Postal Service

Postal Service witness Tang testified (USPS-RT-2 at 8) that there are over 25,000 titles with circulation of less than 15,000 per issue. These titles account for 12 percent of Outside County volume.

Please provide as much of the following information as possible:

1. What is the mean and median circulation of publications in this group?
2. A distribution of these titles into the following circulation categories:

- a. 15,000 – 10,001
 - b. 10,000 – 5001
 - c. 5000 – 1001
 - d. 1000 or under
3. The percent that is nonprofit?
 4. The percent that is published weekly or more frequently?
 5. The percent that contains more than 10 percent advertising material?
 6. Please provide a volume distribution by processing category (i.e., letters, flats, automation flats, irregular parcels).
 7. A distribution of pieces by presort category (i.e., basic, 3-digit, 5-digit, carrier route).
 8. A distribution of pieces by weight.
 9. A distribution of pieces by zone.
 10. A distribution of pieces by container type.

II. NNA

The Commission appreciates the offer of NNA counsel to provide further information on the characteristics of newspapers in the mail. Please provide as much of the information requested of the Postal Service in Part I as possible for NNA members. Please also provide any other information that would further inform the Commission about the characteristics of these mailers.

III. Other Intervenors

The Commission appreciates the efforts expended by certain other participants to provide pertinent data about Periodicals. To the extent not already provided on this record, the Commission seeks data from participants addressing the characteristics identified in Part I. Any other information that would inform the Commission about the characteristics of these mailers would also be appreciated.

Responses are requested by December 1, 2004.

By the Commission.

(S E A L)

Steven W. Williams
Secretary