

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 DAVID POPKIN  
(DBP/USPS-269, 270, 418)  
(September 1, 2006)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides its institutional responses to the DBP/USPS-269, 270 and 418. The first two interrogatories were filed on July 12, 2006. The third one was filed on July 25, 2006. Each interrogatory is stated verbatim and is followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

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**RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO INTERROGATORY OF DAVID POPKIN**

**DBP/USPS-269** Please confirm, or explain if you are unable to confirm, that the various criteria which presently will result in the imposition of the nonmachinable surcharge for a one ounce First-Class Mail article will, under the proposed regulations, cause a mailpiece which otherwise would pay the rate for letter mail to pay the rate for flat mail. Furthermore, under the proposed regulations mailpieces which qualify for mailing at the rate for flats and parcels will not be affected should the mailpiece have any of those nonmachinable characteristics.

**RESPONSE**

It is proposed that nonmahinable one-ounce letters that currently pay the basic First-Class Mail rate plus a surcharge will pay the proposed rate for flats. It is proposed that pieces that meet the definition of flats and parcels pay the proposed rates for flats and parcels, respectively.

**RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO INTERROGATORY OF DAVID POPKIN**

**DBP/USPS-270** [a] Please confirm, or explain if you are unable to confirm, that a single-piece First-Class Mail article that meets all of the size and weight requirements for mailing at the rate for flat mail will always pay that rate. That is, there are no characteristics which would cause it to pay any other rate.

[b] If not, please list the characteristics that would cause a rate other than the rate for flat mail and provide the rate that would be required.

[c] Same as subparts a and b except for parcel mail size and weight requirements.

**RESPONSE**

[a] See the response to DBP/USPS-269.

[b] N/A

[c] Same as subpart [a].

**RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO INTERROGATORY OF DAVID POPKIN**

**DBP/USPS-418** Please refer to your response to Interrogatory DFC/USPS-38. Please confirm, or explain if you are unable to confirm, that for all practical purposes the 13¢ nonmachinable surcharge that exists under the present regulations for one ounce letters that have the appropriate characteristics will be replaced under the proposed regulations by a 20¢ nonmachinable surcharge [although it will not be called by that name] that will apply to all letters up to 3.5 ounces [the maximum weight for a letter].

**RESPONSE**

However one characterizes it, it is proposed that nonmachinable one-ounce letters, which currently pay 13 cents more than rate for machinable one-ounce letters, pay 20 cents more.