

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

Evolutionary Network Development
Service Changes

Docket No. N2006-1

PRESIDING OFFICER'S RULING CONCERNING
POSTAL SERVICE MOTIONS FOR LATE ACCEPTANCE
OF MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS

(September 11, 2006)

Since issuance of my Ruling No. 20,¹ the Postal Service has submitted 16 motions for late acceptance of responses to interrogatories of various participants, objections to other interrogatories, and responses to nine questions posed in Presiding Officer's Information Request No. 5. I granted one of these motions in Ruling No. 31² in connection with a motion to compel responses filed by David B. Popkin. The other motions³ remain outstanding, and are unopposed.

¹ Presiding Officer's Ruling No. N2006-1/20, June 23, 2006.

² Presiding Officer's Ruling No. N2006-1/31, August 9, 2006, at 3.

³ Motion of the United States Postal Service for Late Acceptance of its Objections to Office of the Consumer Advocate Interrogatory OCA/USPS-34(b), June 23, 2006; Motion of the United States Postal Service for Late Acceptance of Filing of Responses of Witness Shah to APWU Interrogatories (APWU/USPS-T1-31 and 32), June 23, 2006; Motion of the United States Postal Service for Late Acceptance of Filing of Responses of Witness Williams to APWU Interrogatories (APWU/USPS-T2- 84 through 89), June 23, 2006; United States Postal Service Motion for Late Acceptance of Responses to Interrogatories (DBP/USPS-61 and 75), June 23, 2006; Motion of the United States Postal Service for Late Acceptance of Its Objections to Office of the Consumer Advocate Interrogatories OCA/USPS-T1-21(a-c), June 23, 2006; United States Postal Service Motion for Late Acceptance of Response of Witness Shah to Interrogatory (OCA/USPS-T1-21(b), June 26, 2006; Motion for Late Acceptance of the Objection of the United States Postal Service to Association of Priority Mail Users Interrogatories (APMU/USPS-T1-7(a), (b), (c), (d), and (f), June 27, 2006; United States Postal Service Motion for Late Acceptance of Its Response to Interrogatory Redirected from Witness Shah (VP/USPS-T1-16), June 27, 2006; Motion of the United States Postal Service for Late Acceptance of the Filing of Its Responses to Office of the Consumer Advocate Interrogatories (OCA/USPS-49 through 56), June 29, 2006; Motion of the United States Postal Service for Late Acceptance of Filing of Responses of Witness Shah to Interrogatories of

At the outset of this proceeding, the Postal Service proposed a highly ambitious expedited schedule for considering its Request.⁴ In the course of discovery by participants and issuance of Presiding Officer's Information Requests, it became apparent, as I observed in Ruling No. 22, that "the Postal Service is laboring under an institutional disability, or perhaps even disinclination, to respond to requests for information in this case in a timely fashion."⁵ It is lamentable that the Service evidently has not committed the resources necessary to meet procedural deadlines in this case under the Commission's normally-applicable rules of practice—much less on an accelerated basis—and that as a result the Commission and participants have been compelled to lower normal expectations of procedural efficiency.

Inasmuch as no participant has opposed any of the Postal Service motions referenced above, they shall be granted.

RULING

The Motions of the United States Postal Service identified in footnote three to the body of this ruling are granted.

Dawn A. Tisdale
Presiding Officer

the Office of the Consumer Advocate (OCA/USPS-T1-29 through 34), June 30, 2006; United States Postal Service Motion for Late Acceptance of Responses of Witness Williams to Interrogatories (OCA/USPS-T2-19 through 21), July 3, 2006; Motion of the United States Postal Service for Late Acceptance of Responses to Presiding Officer's Information Request No. 5 (Questions 1, 2, 4 through 6 and 8 through 11), July 3, 2006; Motion of the United States Postal Service for Late Acceptance of Its Response to American Postal Workers Union Interrogatory Redirected from Witness Williams (APWU/USPS-T2-98), July 11, 2006; United States Postal Service Motion for Late Acceptance of Response of Witness Williams to Interrogatory OCA/USPS-T2-22, July 25, 2006; and Motion of the United States Postal Service for Late Acceptance of the Filing of Its Responses to Question 2, 3, 5, 6, 8 and 9 of Presiding Officer's Information Request No. 7, September 11, 2006 (Motions of the United States Postal Service).

⁴ See Order No. 1453, February 17, 2006, at 2.

⁵ Presiding Officer's Ruling No. N2006-1/22, July 7, 2006, at 3.