Postal Regulatory Commission

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Press Release

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Docket Established for Market Dominant Products Rate Adjustment

The Postal Regulatory Commission has established Docket R2009-2, to receive comments on postal rate changes for market dominant products filed by the U.S. Postal Service yesterday. The rate changes are scheduled to take effect on May 11, 2009.

"This rate filing represents the second request by the Postal Service to access inflation based rate adjustments under the new regulatory system the Commission approved in 2007," said Commission Chair Dan G. Blair. "We look forward to reviewing the Postal Service's submission and encourage public comment in this case."

Market dominant products include First-Class letters and cards, advertising mail, Periodicals, and single piece parcels. Individuals or organizations wishing to submit comments may go to Docket R2009-2 on the Commission's website, www.prc.gov.

Commission rules require that action be taken within 45 days of receipt of the filing and permit a 20-day public comment period. The comment period allows the public to address the consistency of the new rates with statutory requirements, including a CPI-based cap. Within 14 days of the conclusion of the public comment period, the Commission will determine whether the planned rate adjustments are lawful and issue an order announcing its findings. Ken Richardson, an attorney in the PRC's Office of General Counsel, will represent the interests of the public in this proceeding.

The Postal Regulatory Commission is an independent federal agency comprised of five Presidentially-appointed and Senate-confirmed Commissioners, each serving terms of six years. The Chairman is designated by the President. In addition to Chairman Blair, the other Commissioners are Vice Chairman Nanci Langley, Ruth Goldway, Tony Hammond, and Mark Acton.