

# Postal Regulatory Commission

Postal Regulatory Commission  
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## Press Release

### Washington, DC – February 11, 2008

The Postal Regulatory Commission today established Docket R2008-1, to receive comments on postal rate changes for market dominant products filed by the U.S. Postal Service. Today's filing for market dominant products marks the first rate adjustment employing regulations issued by the Commission last October. The rate changes are scheduled to take effect on May 12, 2008.

Market dominant products include First-Class letters and cards, advertising mail, Periodicals, single piece parcels, and Special Services, such as post office boxes and Certified Mail.

The Commission developed and issued final regulations for a new ratemaking system on October 29, 2007, nearly eight months before the statutory deadline of June 20, 2008, set by the PAEA. Under these rules, the public has 20 days to comment on whether the new rates are consistent with statutory requirements, including a CPI based cap. Within 14 days of the end of the public comment period, the Commission will determine whether the planned rate adjustments are lawful and issue an order announcing its findings. Commission Chairman Dan G. Blair appointed Kenneth Richardson, an attorney in the Office of the General Counsel, to represent the interest of the public in this proceeding.

“The predictability of rates – capped at the CPI – and the transparency of the data behind cost adjustments, will bring more value to the mail,” said Chairman Blair. “Having this modern regulatory framework in place considerably ahead of schedule enabled the Postal Governors to use the flexibilities envisioned by Congress under the new law,” he said.

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*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 Ruth Goldway, Tony Hammond, and Mark Acton.*