

rulemaking, and notice of public hearing (REG-138526-14) contains an error that may prove to be misleading, and is in need of clarification.

#### Correction of Publication

Accordingly, the partial withdrawal of notice of proposed rulemaking, notice of proposed rulemaking, and notice of public hearing (REG-138526-14) that is subject to FR Doc. 2015-15411, is corrected as follows:

#### § 1.148-1 [Corrected]

■ 1. On page 36305, second column, second line of paragraph (f)(3)(ii), the language “include” is corrected to read “includes”.

**Martin V. Franks,**

*Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch,  
Legal Processing Division, Associate Chief  
Counsel (Procedure and Administration).*

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## POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

### 39 CFR Part 3050

[Docket No. RM2015-13; Order No. 2599]

#### Periodic Reporting

**AGENCY:** Postal Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission is noticing a recent Postal Service filing requesting that the Commission initiate an informal rulemaking proceeding to consider changes to analytical principles relating to periodic reports (Proposal Five). This notice informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

**DATES:** *Comments are due:* August 31, 2015. *Reply Comments are due:* September 15, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system at <http://www.prc.gov>. Those who cannot submit comments electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section by telephone for advice on filing alternatives.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David A. Trissell, General Counsel, at 202-789-6820.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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- I. Introduction
- II. Proposal Five: A New Methodology To Develop IMTS—Outbound and Inbound Product Costs
- III. Initial Commission Action

#### IV. Ordering Paragraphs

#### I. Introduction

In the Fiscal Year 2014 Annual Compliance Determination (FY 2014 ACD), the Commission directed the Postal Service to report within 90 days on the feasibility of developing attributable costs for the International Money Transfer Service (IMTS)—Outbound and Inbound products based upon alternatives to the In-Office Cost System (IOCS).<sup>1</sup> Cost data for the IMTS—Outbound and Inbound products are reported in the International Cost and Revenue Analysis (ICRA) report.

On June 30, 2015, the Postal Service filed its response to this directive.<sup>2</sup> In Item No. 4 of the Response, the Postal Service proposes to use data reported by the Federal Reserve Bank to estimate the transaction volume for the IMTS—Inbound product. *Id.* at 3. The Postal Service also proposes to use the inbound transaction volume in a new methodology to develop attributable costs for the IMTS—Outbound and Inbound products as an alternative to using IOCS statistical data. *Id.* at 5.

Pursuant to 39 CFR 3050.11 *et. seq.*, the Commission establishes the instant docket to initiate an informal rulemaking proceeding to consider the changes proposed in Item No. 4 of the Response to the Commission's directive in the FY 2014 ACD. The proposed changes to the IMTS—Outbound and Inbound products are labeled as Proposal Five and will be considered in this docket.

#### II. Proposal Five: A New Methodology To Develop IMTS—Outbound and Inbound Product Costs

The Postal Service proposes to estimate the transaction volume for the IMTS—Inbound product for the first time on an annual basis using data available from the Federal Reserve Bank on the number of foreign-origin money orders cashed by the Postal Service. *Id.* at 3. Using this new inbound transaction volume, the Postal Service proposes a new methodology to develop the attributable costs of the IMTS—Outbound and Inbound products. *Id.* at 5.

Currently, total attributable costs for the combined IMTS—Outbound and

<sup>1</sup> Docket No. ACR2014, Fiscal Year 2014 Annual Compliance Determination Report, March 27, 2015, at 76 (FY 2014 ACD). The IOCS is one of several Postal Service statistical sampling systems used to develop product costs.

<sup>2</sup> Docket No. ACR2014, Responses of the United States Postal Service to Commission Requests for Additional Information Regarding IMTS and EPG in the FY 2014 Annual Compliance Determination, June 30, 2015 (Response).

Inbound products are distributed between the products using IOCS tallies.<sup>3</sup> The Postal Service states that both the IMTS—Outbound and Inbound products are small products with relatively few transactions. Response at 4. As a result, it is difficult to obtain a sufficient number of IOCS tallies to reliably estimate attributable costs for the IMTS—Outbound product, which causes relatively volatile unit costs year-to-year. *Id.* Moreover, in most fiscal years, the Postal Service has been unable to develop attributable costs for the IMTS—Inbound product because of an absence of IOCS tallies. In addition, the ICRA report does not present transaction volume for the IMTS—Inbound product because the Postal Service has been unable to estimate such transaction volume through special studies or the use of data from postal retail systems. *Id.* at 2-3.

To develop attributable costs for the IMTS—Outbound and Inbound products, the Postal Service proposes to use an estimate of retail window service time for electronic wire transfer transactions to develop an electronic window service cost per transaction. *Id.* at 5. When multiplied by the number of electronic transfer transactions, the resulting total electronic window service costs is then subtracted from the total attributable costs for the combined IMTS products, with the remainder apportioned between transactions for outbound paper money orders and foreign-origin money orders cashed by the Postal Service based on transaction volume. *Id.*

#### III. Initial Commission Action

The Commission establishes Docket No. RM2015-13 for consideration of matters raised by Item No. 4 of the Response, now identified as Proposal Five. More information on Proposal Five may be accessed via the Commission's Web site at <http://www.prc.gov>. The Postal Service filed portions of its supporting documentation under seal as part of a non-public annex. Information concerning access to non-public materials is located in 39 CFR part 3007.

Interested persons may submit comments on Proposal Five no later

<sup>3</sup> See Docket No. RM2011-5, Order No. 724, Order Concerning Analytical Principles for Periodic Reporting (Proposals Ten through Twelve, May 4, 2011, at 6-8. The IOCS collects data on the proportion of time spent by an employee performing various functions on different mail products or services. These proportions of time are used to estimate the costs of such products or services. An example might be the time spent by city carriers in a delivery post office casing (*i.e.*, sorting) mail. Individuals referred to as “tally takers” sample the time data; hence, the term tally is used to identify the source of the data.

than August 31, 2015. Reply comments are due no later than September 15, 2015. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Nina Yeh is designated as officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in this proceeding.

#### IV. Ordering Paragraphs

*It is ordered:*

1. The Commission establishes Docket No. RM2015–13 for consideration of the matters raised by the United States Postal Service in its Docket No. ACR2014, Responses of the United States Postal Service to Commission Requests for Additional Information Regarding IMTS and EPG in the FY 2014 Annual Compliance Determination, Item No. 4, filed June 30, 2015, identified herein as Proposal Five.

2. Comments by interested persons in this proceeding are due no later than August 31, 2015. Reply comments are due no later than September 15, 2015.

3. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, the Commission appoints Nina Yeh to serve as an officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in this docket.

4. The Secretary shall arrange for publication of this order in the **Federal Register**.

By the Commission.

**Ruth Ann Abrams,**

*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2015–18665 Filed 7–29–15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7710–FW–P**

## POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

### 39 CFR part 3050

[Docket No. RM2015–12; Order No. 2601]

#### Periodic Reporting

**AGENCY:** Postal Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission is noticing a recent Postal Service filing requesting that the Commission initiate an informal rulemaking proceeding to consider changes to analytical principles relating to periodic reports (Proposal Four). This notice informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

**DATES:** *Comments are due:* August 31, 2015. *Reply Comments are due:* September 15, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system at <http://www.prc.gov>. Those who cannot submit comments electronically should contact

the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section by telephone for advice on filing alternatives.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David A. Trissell, General Counsel, at 202–789–6820.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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- I. Introduction
- II. Summary of Proposal
- III. Initial Commission Action
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#### I. Introduction

On July 17, 2015, the Postal Service filed a petition pursuant to 39 CFR 3050.11 requesting that the Commission initiate an informal rulemaking proceeding to consider changes to analytical principles relating to periodic reports.<sup>1</sup> Proposal Four is attached to the Petition and identifies the proposed analytical method change as a change relating to the use of the Summary of International Revenue and Volume Outbound statistical system (SIRVO) in the International Cost and Revenue Analysis (ICRA) report. *Id.* The Postal Service concurrently filed a nonpublic library reference, along with an application for nonpublic treatment of materials.<sup>2</sup>

#### II. Summary of Proposal

The Postal Service explains that the ICRA processing currently uses 20 individual quarterly international accounting datasets to provide country-specific outbound mail flow data for 46 individual countries and four regional aggregated country groupings. Petition, Proposal Four at 2. International accounting data have been the source of the mail flow data for countries not reported in the ICRA inputs by SIRVO. *Id.*

Under Proposal Four, the Postal Service seeks to use expanded SIRVO data in lieu of international accounting data. *Id.* The Postal Service asserts that the change does not materially affect the overall workings of the ICRA because the use of the SIRVO data is parallel to

<sup>1</sup> Petition of the United States Postal Service for the Initiation of a Proceeding to Consider Proposed Changes in Analytical Principles (Proposal Four), July 17, 2015 (Petition).

<sup>2</sup> Notice of Filing of USPS–RM2015–12/NP1 and Application for Nonpublic Treatment, July 17, 2015 (Notice). The Library Reference is USPS–RM2015–12/NP1—Nonpublic Material Relating to Proposal Four (SIRVO Inputs to ICRA). The Notice incorporates by reference the Application for Nonpublic Treatment of Materials contained in Attachment Two to the December 29, 2014, United States Postal Service Fiscal Year 2014 Annual Compliance Report. Notice at 1. See 39 CFR part 3007 for information on access to nonpublic material.

the use of the international accounting data. *Id.* The Postal Service states this change will streamline the ICRA data sources by eliminating 16 of the 20 datasets and retaining only four files for outbound Priority Mail Express International data that are not provided by SIRVO. *Id.* at 2. Further, Proposal Four will include data for the 186 additional countries/territories currently subsumed in the four regional aggregate groups. *Id.*

The Postal Service states that despite movement in the costs for individual products because of the new weighting scheme, overall costs will remain the same (to within one ten-thousandth of 1 percent) due to the ICRA benchmarking process. *Id.* at 4. The Postal Service identifies 36 changes that differ by more than \$0.01 and 1 percent at the same time as a result of Proposal 4. *Id.* at 3. By way of example, the Postal Service represents that the shift to the SIRVO data sources will increase the volume-variable costs for International Priority Airmail and International Surface Airlift by \$125,000 and \$85,000, respectively. *Id.* The Postal Service asserts that this cost change is isolated in outbound products covered by SIRVO and any affected NSAs in the international settlements estimates. *Id.* The Postal Service also asserts that the only market dominant category to experience a change of 1 percent or more was the total volume-variable cost increase of \$10,000 for Outbound International Cards to Transition System Countries at Universal Postal Union rates. *Id.* at 4.

#### III. Initial Commission Action

The Commission establishes Docket No. RM2015–12 for consideration of matters raised by the Petition. Additional information concerning the Petition may be accessed via the Commission's Web site at <http://www.prc.gov>. Interested persons may submit comments on the Petition and Proposal Four no later than August 31, 2015. Reply comments are due no later than September 15, 2015. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, James F. Callow is designated as officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in this proceeding.

#### IV. Ordering Paragraphs

*It is ordered:*

1. The Commission establishes Docket No. RM2015–12 for consideration of the matters raised by the Petition of the United States Postal Service for the Initiation of a Proceeding to Consider Proposed Changes in Analytical Principles (Proposal Four), filed July 17, 2015.