

## Postal Regulatory Commission

## § 3010.13

authority equals the price cap applicable to each class of mail.

### § 3010.12 Source of CPI-U data for purposes of annual limitation.

The monthly CPI-U values needed for the calculation of the annual limitation under this part shall be obtained from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Consumer Price Index—All Urban Consumers, U.S. All Items, Not Seasonally Adjusted, Base Period 1982–84 = 100. The current Series ID for the index is “CUUR0000SA0.”

### § 3010.13 Proceedings for Type 1-A and Type 1-B rate adjustment filings.

(a) The Commission will establish a docket for each rate adjustment filing, promptly publish notice of the filing in the FEDERAL REGISTER, and post the filing on its Web site. The notice shall include:

- (1) The general nature of the proceeding;
- (2) A reference to legal authority to which the proceeding is to be conducted;
- (3) A concise description of the planned for changes in rates, fees, and the Mail Classification Schedule;
- (4) The identification of an officer of the Commission to represent the interests of the general public in the docket;
- (5) A period of 20 days from the date of the filing for public comment; and
- (6) Such other information as the Commission deems appropriate.

(b) Public comments should focus primarily on whether planned rate adjustments comply with the following mandatory requirements of 39 U.S.C. chapter 36, subchapter 1:

- (1) Whether the planned rate adjustments measured using the formula established in § 3010.23(b) are at or below the annual limitation established in § 3010.11; and
  - (2) Whether the planned rate adjustments measured using the formula established in § 3010.23(b) are at or below the limitations established in § 3010.28.
- (c) Within 14 days of the conclusion of the public comment period the Commission will determine, at a minimum, whether the planned rate adjustments are consistent with the annual limitation set forth in rule 3010.11; the limi-

tations set forth in rule 3010.28; and 39 U.S.C. 3626, 3627, and 3629, and issue an order announcing its findings.

(d) If the planned rate adjustments are found consistent with applicable law by the Commission, they may take effect pursuant to appropriate action by the Governors.

(e) If planned rate adjustments are found inconsistent with applicable law by the Commission, the Postal Service will submit an amended notice of rate adjustment and describe the modifications to its planned rate adjustments that will bring its rate adjustments into compliance. An amended notice of rate adjustment shall be accompanied by sufficient explanatory information to show that all deficiencies identified by the Commission have been corrected.

(f) The Commission will post any amended notice of rate adjustment filing on its Web site and allow a period of 10 days from the date of the filing for public comment. Comments in the amended notice of rate adjustment should address the subjects identified in rule 3010.13(b).

(g) The Commission will review any amended notice of rate adjustment together with any comments filed for compliance and within 14 days issue an order announcing its findings.

(h) If the planned rate adjustments as amended are found to be consistent with applicable law, they may take effect pursuant to appropriate action by the Governors. However, no rate shall take effect until 45 days after the Postal Service files a notice of rate adjustment specifying that rate.

(i) If the planned rate adjustments in an amended notice of rate adjustment are found to be inconsistent with applicable law, the Commission shall explain the basis of its determination and suggest an appropriate remedy.

(j) For purposes of subsequent Commission proceedings, findings that a planned Type 1 rate adjustment is in compliance with the annual limitation set forth in § 3010.11; the limitations set forth in § 3010.28; and 39 U.S.C. 3626, 3627, and 3629 are decided on the merits. A Commission finding that a planned Type 1 rate adjustment does not contravene other policies of 39 U.S.C.

chapter 36, subchapter 1 is provisional and subject to subsequent review.

**§ 3010.14 Contents of notice of rate adjustment.**

(a) *General.* The Postal Service notice of rate adjustment must include the following information:

- (1) A schedule of the proposed rates;
- (2) The planned effective date(s) of the proposed rates;
- (3) A representation or evidence that public notice of the planned changes has been issued or will be issued at least 45 days before the effective date(s) for the proposed new rates; and
- (4) The identity of a responsible Postal Service official who will be available to provide prompt responses to requests for clarification from the Commission.

(b) *Supporting technical information and justifications.* The notice of rate adjustment shall be accompanied by:

- (1) The amount of the applicable change in CPI-U calculated as required by § 3010.21 or § 3010.22, as appropriate. This information must be supported by workpapers in which all calculations are shown, and all input values including all relevant CPI-U values are listed with citations to the original sources;
- (2) A schedule showing unused rate authority available for each class of mail displayed by class and available amount for each of the preceding 5 years. This information must be supported by workpapers in which all calculations are shown;
- (3) The percentage change in rates for each class of mail calculated as required by § 3010.23. This information must be supported by workpapers in which all calculations are shown, and all input values including current rates, new rates, and billing determinants are listed with citations to the original sources;
- (4) The amount of new unused rate authority, if any, that will be generated by the rate adjustment calculated as required by § 3010.26. All calculations are to be shown with citations to the original sources. If new unused rate authority will be generated for a class of mail that is not expected to cover its attributable costs, the Postal Service must provide the rationale underlying this rate adjustment;

(5) A schedule of the workshare discounts included in the proposed rates, and a companion schedule listing the avoided costs that underlie each such discount. The avoided cost figures must be developed from the most recent PRC Annual Compliance Report. This information must be supported by workpapers in which all calculations are shown, and all input values are listed with citations to the original sources;

(6) Separate justification for all proposed workshare discounts that exceed avoided costs. Each such justification shall reference applicable reasons identified in 39 U.S.C. 3622(e)(2) or (3). The Postal Service shall also identify and explain discounts that are set substantially below avoided costs and explain any relationship between discounts that are above and those that are below avoided costs;

(7) A discussion that demonstrates how the planned rate adjustments are designed to help achieve the objectives listed in 39 U.S.C. 3622(b) and properly take into account the factors listed in 39 U.S.C. 3622(c);

(8) A discussion that demonstrates the planned rate adjustments are consistent with 39 U.S.C. 3626, 3627, and 3629;

(9) A schedule identifying every change to the Mail Classification Schedule that will be necessary to implement the planned rate adjustments; and

(10) Such other information as the Postal Service believes will assist the Commission to issue a timely determination of whether the requested increases are consistent with applicable statutory policies.

(c) *New workshare discounts.* Whenever the Postal Service establishes a new workshare discount rate, it must include with its filing:

- (1) A statement explaining its reasons for establishing the discount;
- (2) All data, economic analyses, and other information relied on to justify the discount; and
- (3) A certification based on comprehensive, competent analyses that the discount will not adversely affect either the rates or the service levels of users of postal services who do not take advantage of the discount.