Ave., NW., Room S–3201, Washington, DC 20210, telephone (202) 693–0339, fax (202) 693–1451, Email *pforkel@fenix2.dol-esa.gov.* Please use only one method of transmission for comments (mail, fax, or Email).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) administers the Federal Employees' Compensation Act; the Black Lung Benefits Act, the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Act, and the Longshore and Harbor Workers Compensation Act. These programs pay for medical services rendered for the diagnosis and treatment of injured workers for conditions compensable under the Acts. The Provider Enrollment Form (OWCP–1168) is currently used in the Black Lung and Energy programs to obtain profile information on medical providers which is necessary to process payments, apply fee schedules, and conduct checks to identify duplicate and other erroneous billing. This information collection is currently approved for use through February 2005.

II. Review Focus

The Department of Labor is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submissions of responses.

III. Current Actions

The Department of Labor seeks to expand the use of the OWCP 1168 to two additional programs, the Division of Longshore and Harbor Workers Compensation and the Division of Federal Employees' Compensation, as part of the development of a Centralized Medical Bill System for the processing of medical bills in each of OWCP's four programs. This centralization will result in an increase in efficiency of processing medical bills, reduction of administrative costs, and improvement of the efficiency of benefits and service provision. This collection request seeks approval of revisions to the current form to accommodate its use by The Division of Federal Employees' Compensation and the Division of Longshore and Harbor Worker's Compensation. In addition, this revision will facilitate the centralization of bill processing for all four programs under a Federal contractor. Providers must be enrolled in the new system prior to implementation to ensure the continuity of services to both the claimant and provider communities.

Type of Review: Revision.

Agency: Employment Standards Administration.

Title: Provider Enrollment Form.

OMB Number: 1215–0137.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Total Respondents/Responses: 20,100.

Frequency: On occasion.

Estimated Total Burden Hours: 2,497.

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): $0.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): $8,040.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: October 3, 2002.

Margaret J. Sherrill,

Chief, Branch of Management Review and Internal Control, Division of Financial Management, Office of Management, Administration and Planning, Employment Standards Administration.

[FR Doc. 02–25664 Filed 10–8–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–CK–P

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

NLRB Organization and Functions

AGENCY: National Labor Relations Board.

ACTION: Amendment of delegation of administrative authority to General Counsel under section 3(d) of National Labor Relations Act.

SUMMARY: The National Labor Relations Board is amending the memorandum describing the authority and assigned responsibilities of the General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board with respect to administrative functions. The revisions are being adopted in order to reestablish lines of authority within the administrative structure of the Agency.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2002.

ADDRESSES: National Labor Relations Board, 1099 14th Street, NW., Room 11600, Washington, DC 20570.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John J. Toner, Executive Secretary, National Labor Relations Board, 1099 14th Street, NW., Room 11600, Washington, DC 20570. Telephone: (202) 273–1936.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Board amended memorandum describing the authority and assigned responsibilities of the General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board with respect to administrative functions is effective April 1, 1955, as amended September 8, 1958 (effective August 25, 1958), August 12, 1959 (effective August 3, 1959), and April 28, 1961 (effective May 15, 1961) (appearing at 20 FR 2175, 23 FR 6966, 24 FR 6666 and 26 FR 3911, respectively).

Dated: October 4, 2002.

John J. Toner,

Executive Secretary.

National Labor Relations Board

General Counsel

Further Amendment to Memorandum Describing Authority and Assigned Responsibilities

Pursuant to the provisions of section 3(a) of the Administrative Procedure Act (Pub. Law 404, 79th Cong., 2d Sess.), the National Labor Relations Board hereby separately states and currently publishes in the **Federal Register** the following further amendment to Board memorandum describing the authority and assigned responsibilities of the General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board (effective October 1, 2002).

Dated, Washington, DC, October 4, 2002.

By direction of the Board.

Executive Secretary.

The Board memorandum describing the authority and assigned responsibilities of the General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board effective April 1, 1955, as amended September 8, 1958 (effective August 25, 1958), August 12, 1959 (effective August 3, 1959), and April 28, 1961 (effective May 15, 1961) (appearing at 20 FR 2175, 23 FR 6966, 24 FR 6666 and 26 FR 3911, respectively), is hereby further amended as follows:

1. Strike the text of paragraphs 1 and 4 of section VII of the amendment dated August 12, 1959 (effective August 3, 1959), strike the text of paragraph 2 of section VII of the amendment dated April 28, 1961 (effective May 15, 1961), and substitute the following:

1. In order more fully to release the Board to the expeditious performance of its primary function and responsibility of deciding cases, the authority and responsibility for all administrative functions of the Agency shall be vested in the General Counsel, except as provided below. This authority shall be exercised subject to the limitations contained in paragraphs 2, 5 and 6, and shall be exercised in conformity with the requirements for joint determination as described in paragraph 4.

2. Subject to the limitations contained in paragraphs 5 and 6, the General Counsel shall exercise full and final authority on behalf of the Agency over the selection, retention, transfer, promotion, demotion, discipline, discharge, and in all other respects, of all personnel engaged in the field, except that personnel action with respect to Regional Directors and Officers-in Charge of Subregional offices will be conducted as hereinafter provided, and in the Washington Office (other than personnel in the Board Members' Offices, the Division of Judges, the Division of Information, the Security Office, the Office of the Solicitor, the Office of the Executive Secretary and the Office of Inspector General): provided, however, that the establishment, transfer or elimination of any Regional or Subregional Office shall require the approval of the Board.

The appointment, transfer, demotion, or discharge of any Regional Director or of any Officer-in-Charge of a Subregional office shall be made by the General Counsel only upon the approval of the Board.

4. In connection with and in order to effectuate the foregoing, the General Counsel is authorized to formulate and execute such necessary requests, certifications, and other related documents on behalf of the Agency, as may be needed from time to time to meet the requirements of the Office of Personnel Management, the Office of Management and Budget or any other Governmental Agency; provided, however, that the total amount of any annual budget requests submitted by the Agency, the apportionment and allocation of funds and/or the establishment of personnel ceilings within the Agency shall be determined jointly by the Board and the General Counsel.

2. Add the following paragraphs 5 and 6 to the text of section VII of the amendment dated April 28, 1961 (effective May 15, 1961):

5. The Information Technology Branch shall be realigned under the authority of the Chief Information Officer (''CIO'') (who will jointly report to the General Counsel and the Chairman of the Board with respect to those matters covered by the responsibilities of the CIO), and placed with the Office of Inspector General, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity and the Office of Employee Development outside the Division of Administration. The Editorial and Publications Services Section of the Library and Administrative Services Branch, Division of Administration, shall be transferred to the Office of the Executive Secretary.

6. The Chairman of the Board shall have full and final authority over the selection, retention, transfer, promotion, demotion, discipline, discharge and evaluation of those persons holding Senior Executive Service positions in the Division of Administration, the senior management official in the Office of Employee Development, the Chief Information Officer and the Inspector General.

[FR Doc. 02–25698 Filed 10–8–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7545–01–P

POSTAL RATE COMMISSION

[Docket No. MC2002–3; Order No. 1347]

Experimental Mail Classification Case

AGENCY: Postal Rate Commission.

ACTION: Notice and order on new experimental docket.

SUMMARY: This document establishes a docket for consideration of a proposed two-year experiment. The experiment entails two new discounts for certain co-palletized Periodicals mail that is dropshipped to designated destination entry facilities. This document briefly reviews the proposal, sets initial procedural dates, authorizes settlement discussions, and identifies other pertinent Commission actions.

DATES: 1. *September 26, 2002:* Postal Service's request filed with the Commission.

2. *October 2, 2002:* issuance of Commission notice and order (no. 1347).

3. *October 18, 2002:* deadline for notices of intervention, response to motion for waiver, comments on appropriateness of experimental status and use of expedited procedures.

4. *October 22, 2002:* settlement conference (10 a.m.).

5. *October 23, 2002:* prehearing conference (2 p.m.).

ADDRESSES: Send correspondence to the attention of Steven W. Williams, Secretary, Postal Rate Commission, 1333 H Street NW., Suite 300, Washington, DC 20268–001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen L. Sharfman, General Counsel, 202–789–6815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On September 26, 2002, the United States Postal Service filed a request seeking a recommended decision from the Postal Rate Commission approving an experimental mail classification, along with two related discounts, for certain Outside County Periodicals mail that is co-palletized and dropshipped to specified destination facilities.[1] Request of the United States Postal Service for a Recommended Decision on Experimental Periodicals Co-Palletization Dropship Discounts (request). The request, which includes six attachments, was filed pursuant to chapter 36 of the Postal Reorganization Act, 39 U.S.C. 3601 *et seq.*[2]

In contemporaneous filings, the Service asks for waiver of certain standard filing requirements (if the Commission deems such waiver is required), and seeks expedited consideration of its proposal, including establishment of procedures for settlement. The Service's request for expedition is in addition to that generally available under the Commission's experimental rules [39 CFR 3001.67–3001.67d]. United States Postal Service Request for Expedition and Establishment of Settlement Procedures (request for expedition), September 26, 2002; Motion of United States Postal Service for Waiver (motion for waiver), September 26, 2002. The Service's request, the accompanying testimony of witness Taufique (USPS–T–1), and other related material are available for inspection in the Commission's docket section during regular business hours. They also can be accessed electronically, via the Internet, on the Commission's Web site (*http://www.prc.gov*).

I. The Service Characterizes Its Proposal as a Limited Initiative With the Potential To Improve Operational Efficiency and Control Costs

The Postal Service proposes conducting a two-year experiment

[1] The request also includes a proposal to delete a reference to an outdated ''ride-along'' rate in DMCS section 443.1a. USPS–T–1 at 1–2.

[2] Attachments A and B to the request contain proposed classification schedule provisions (or revisions to existing provisions); attachment C incorporates by reference the certified financial statement provided in docket no. MC2002–2; attachment D is the certification required by Commission rule 54(p); attachment E is an index of testimony and exhibits; and attachment F is a compliance statement addressing satisfaction of various filing requirements.