POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. CP2013–27; Order No. 1582]

International Mail Contract

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission is noticing a recently-filed Postal Service notice concerning changes to Inbound Air Parcel Post (at UPU Rates). This document invites public comments on the request and addresses several related procedural steps.

DATES: Comments are due: December 26, 2012.

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.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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I. Introduction

Notice of filing. On December 14, 2012, the Postal Service filed a notice announcing its intention to change rates for Inbound Air Parcel Post (at UPU Rates).1

The Notice does not include any classification changes. Id. at 2. The intended effective date of the rate change is January 1, 2013. The timing of the filingcomports with the requirement, in 39 CFR 3015.5, that notice of this type of change be submitted at least 15 days before the effective date.

Background. The Commission approved the Postal Service’s request to add Inbound Air Parcel Post (at UPU Rates) to the competitive product list in Order No. 362, following consideration in Docket No. MC2010–11.2 The request was based on Governors’ Decision No. 09–15. Notice at 1.

II. Contents of Filing

This filing includes a Notice, along with the following attachments:

• Attachment 1—an application for non-public treatment of material filed under seal;
• Attachment 2—a redacted copy of Governors’ Decision No. 09–15;
• Attachment 3—a redacted copy of the new rates; and
• Attachment 4—a copy of the certification required under 39 CFR 3015.5(c)(2).

The material filed under seal consists of unredacted copies of the referenced Governors’ Decision, the new rates and related financial information. Id. at 3.

The Postal Service filed redacted versions of the sealed financial documents in public Excel spreadsheets. Id. at 2.

Classification and rates. The Notice incorporates by reference previous explanations (1) concerning the UPU Postal Operations Council’s mechanism for setting base rates for Inbound Air Parcel Post, and (2) the formal nature of the Governors’ Decision establishing those rates for purposes of statutory compliance. Id.

The Postal Service asserts that the prices comport with the Governors’ Decision No. 09–15 as they are the highest possible inward land rates that the Postal Service is eligible for based on inflation increases and other factors. Id. at 2–3. It also asserts that it has met its burden of providing notice to the Commission of changed rates within the scope of Governors’ Decision No. 09–15, as required by 39 U.S.C. 3632(b)(3). Id. at 3.

Applicability and Application for Non-Public Treatment of Materials Filed Under Seal, December 14, 2012 (Notice). The Notice was filed pursuant to 39 CFR 3015.5. Notice at 1.

1 Notice of the United States Postal Service of Filing Changes in Rates Not of General

III. Commission Action


The Commission appoints James F. Callow to represent the interest of the general public (Public Representative) in this case.

IV. Ordering Paragraphs

It is ordered:


2. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, the Commission designates James F. Callow to serve as an officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in this proceeding.

3. Comments are due no later than December 26, 2012.

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

By the Commission.

Shoshana M. Grove,
Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon Written Request Copies Available

Extension:
Rule 17Ad–13; SEC File No. 270–263; OMB Control No. 3235–0275.


Rule 17Ad–13 requires an annual study and evaluation of internal accounting controls under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a et seq.). It requires approximately 150 registered transfer agents to obtain an annual report on the adequacy of their internal accounting controls from an independent accountant. In addition, transfer agents must maintain copies of any reports prepared pursuant to Rule 17Ad–13 plus any documents prepared to notify the Commission and appropriate regulatory agencies in the event that the transfer agent is required to take any corrective action. These recordkeeping requirements assist the Commission and other regulatory agencies with monitoring transfer agents and ensuring compliance with the rule. Small transfer agents are exempt from Rule 17Ad–13 as are transfer agents that service only their own companies’ securities.

Approximately 150 independent, professional transfer agents must file the independent accountant’s report annually. We estimate that the annual internal time burden for each transfer agent to comply with Rule 17Ad–13 by submitting the report prepared by the independent accountant to the Commission is minimal. The time required for the independent accountant to prepare the accountant’s report varies with each transfer agent depending on the size and nature of the transfer agent’s operations. The Commission estimates that, on average, each report can be completed by the independent accountant in 120 hours, resulting in a total of 18,000 external hours annually (120 hours × 150 reports). The burden was estimated using Commission review of filed Rule 17Ad–13 reports and Commission conversations with transfer agents and accountants. The Commission estimates that, on average, 120 hours are needed to perform the study, prepare the report, and retain the required records on an annual basis.

Assuming an average hourly rate of an independent accountant of $60, the average total annual cost of the report is $7,200. The total annual cost for the approximate 150 respondents is approximately $1,080,000.

The retention period for the recordkeeping requirement under Rule 17Ad–13 is three years following the date of a report prepared pursuant to the rule. The recordkeeping requirement under Rule 17Ad–13 is mandatory to assist the Commission and other regulatory agencies with monitoring transfer agents and ensuring compliance with the rule. This rule does not involve the collection of confidential information.

The Commission may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the PRA that does not display a valid OMB control number.

Background documentation for this information collection may be viewed at the following Web site, http://www.reginfo.gov. Comments should be directed to: (i) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10102, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or by sending an email to shagufta.ahmed@omb.eop.gov; and (ii) Thomas Bauer, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Remi Pavlik-Simon, 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, VA 22312 or send an email to PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov. Comments must be submitted within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: December 17, 2012.

Kevin M. O’Neill,
Deputy Secretary.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon Written Request Copies Available

Extension:
Appendix F to Rule 15c3–1; SEC File No. 270–440; OMB Control No. 3235–0496.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.) (“PRA”), the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) is soliciting comments on the existing collection of information provided for in Appendix F to Rule 15c3–1 (“Appendix F” or “Rule 15c3–1”) (17 CFR 240.15c3–1) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a et seq.). The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”) for extension and approval.