

to submit in the required format the processing programs that calculate and distribute attributable mail processing costs.

If the Postal Service foresees substantial obstacles to complying with this proposed format requirement, it is urged to request a conference with the Commission's technical staff to explore the nature of these obstacles and ways to overcome them prior to the adoption of a final amended rule 102.

Billing Determinants

Current rule 102(a)(10) requires the Postal Service to provide the Commission with billing determinants within two weeks of providing them for use by postal management. Recently, the delay in the provision of billing determinants in response to the rule has been considerable. Since FY 1995, it has ranged from nine to 16 months after the close of the fiscal year. The current rule allows the Postal Service to delay the filing of billing determinant information for Express Mail, Priority Mail, and parcel post for up to one year from the time that it provides billing determinants for other categories of mail. Consequently, billing determinants for Express, Priority, and parcel post mail have been from 21 to 28 months out of date at the time they were provided. The Commission believes that it would be useful to reexamine the rationale for the current rule whose effect is to allow billing determinants for these three categories of mail to be well over two years out of date when submitted. As a starting point for that reexamination, the Commission proposes to revise rule 102(a)(10) to require the Postal Service to submit billing determinants for these three mail categories no later than 12 months after the close of the fiscal year.

Comments on the revisions to rule 102 proposed in this notice should be submitted on or before February 10, 2003, and any reply comments by February 25, 2003.

It is ordered:

1. Interested persons are invited to submit comments on the Commission's notice of proposed rulemaking on or before February 10, 2003. Any reply comments should be submitted by February 25, 2003.

2. The Secretary shall cause this notice of proposed rulemaking to be published in the **Federal Register**.

Issued January 8, 2003.

By the Commission.

Steven W. Williams,
Secretary.

List of Subjects in 39 CFR Part 3001

Administrative practice and procedure, Postal Service.

For the reasons stated in the accompanying Order, the Commission proposes the following amendments to 39 CFR part 3001.

PART 3001—RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE

1. The authority citation for part 3001 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 39 U.S.C. 404(b); 3603; 3622–24; 3661; 3662; 3663.

Subpart G—Rules Applicable to the Filing of Reports by the U.S. Postal Service

2. Revise § 3001.102 to read as follows:

§ 3001.102 Filing of reports.

Each report listed in this section shall be filed with the Secretary of the Commission within two weeks of its presentation for use by postal management, unless otherwise noted. Each report should be provided in a form that can be read by publicly available PC software. A processing program that was developed specifically to produce an accompanying workpaper must be provided in a form that can be executed by publicly available PC software. COBOL processing programs in use prior to FY 2003 are exempt from this requirement. The reports and information required to be provided by this subpart need not include matters that are exempt from disclosure by law. Whenever a specific source is cited in this section, that citation includes any successor or substituted source.

(a) *Annual reports.* The following information will be filed by the Postal Service annually. If it is presented for use by postal management at more frequent intervals, it shall be filed at those intervals:

(1) All input data, all processing programs that have changed since the most recently completed general rate proceeding, and all computer programs used to attribute mail processing costs to subclasses, if they are used to produce the Cost and Revenue Analysis Report (CRA). Each change in attribution principles or methods from the previous report will be identified. The Postal Service shall submit a CRA—USPS Version, followed within two weeks by a CRA—PRC Version. Documentation of the CRA shall

include, but not be limited to, the following:

(i) Spreadsheet workpapers underlying the development of segment costs by cost component. These workpapers should include all of the updated factors and data from the supporting data systems used, including the In-Office Cost System (IOCS), the Management Operating Data System (MODS), the City Carrier Cost System (CCCS), the Rural Carrier Cost System (RCCS), and the Rural Mail Count.

(ii) Cost segments and components reconciliation to financial statements and account reallocations.

(2) Cost Segments and Components Report. Documentation shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(i) The Manual Input Requirement, the "A" report, and the "B" report;

(ii) The control string commands for the "A" report, the "B" report (including the PESSA factor calculations), and the "C" report;

(iii) The master list of cost segment components, including the components used as distribution keys in the development of the "B" report and the "C" report.

(3) City delivery information, including the number of routes by type, the number of possible deliveries by type, the number of collection boxes, and the number of businesses served (120 days from the close of the fiscal year).

(4) Rural carrier information, including the number of routes by type and miles, stops, boxes served, and mail pieces by route type (120 days from the close of the fiscal year).

(5) Civil Service Retirement Fund Deficit Report (two weeks after release of the Annual Report of the Postmaster General).

(6) Worker's Compensation Report, including summary workpapers (two weeks after release of the Annual Report of the Postmaster General).

(7) Annual Report of the Postmaster General.

(8) Congressional Budget Submission, including workpapers. The Postal Service will also file concurrently Summary Tables SE 1, 2, and 6 (coinciding with their submission to Congress).

(9) Audit Adjustment Vouchers, if any.

(10) Billing Determinants, at the level of detail employed in the most recent formal request for a change in rates or fees. The provision of billing determinants for Express Mail, Priority Mail, and parcel post may be delayed up to 12 months from the close of the fiscal year to which they apply.

(11) USPS Integrated Financial Plan.