POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. R2016–1; Order No. 2819]

International Mail Contract

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission is noticing a recent Postal Service filing concerning a Type 2 rate adjustment and the filing of a related negotiated service agreement with Korea Post. This notice informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

DATES: Comments are due: November 23, 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

On November 13, 2015, the Postal Service filed a notice, pursuant to 39 CFR 3010.40 et seq., announcing a Type 2 rate adjustment to improve default rates established under the Universal Postal Union (UPU) Acts.1 The Notice concerns the inbound portion of a Multi-Product Bilateral Agreement with Korea Post (Agreement) that the Postal Service contends is functionally equivalent to the baseline agreement with China Post (China Post 2010 Agreement) that the Commission included within the Inbound Market Dominant Multi-Service Agreements with Foreign Postal Operators 1 product in the market dominant product list of the Mail Classification Schedule.2 Notice at 1–2.

II. Contents of Filing

The Postal Service’s filing consists of the Notice, two attachments, and redacted and unredacted versions of an Excel file with supporting financial workpapers. Notice at 2. Attachment 1 is an application for non-public treatment of material filed under seal with the Commission. Attachment 2 is a redacted copy of the Agreement. Id.

The Postal Service states the intended effective date of the Agreement is January 1, 2016; asserts it is providing at least the 45 days advance notice required under 39 CFR 3010.41; and identifies the parties to the Agreement as the United States Postal Service and Korea Post, the postal operator for the Republic of Korea. Id. at 2–3.

The Postal Service states that the Agreement includes: Revised rates and terms for small packets with delivery scanning; improvement to labels; use of Postal Service barcode to facilitate sortation; and sortation recommendations. Id. at 4.

Reporting requirements. 39 CFR 3010.43 requires the Postal Service to submit a detailed data collection plan. In lieu of a special data collection plan for the Agreement, the Postal Service proposes to report information on the Agreement through the Annual Compliance Report. Id. at 6. The Postal Service also invokes, with respect to service performance measurement reporting under 39 CFR 3055.3(a)(3), the standing exception the Commission allowed in Order No. 996 for all agreements filed in the Inbound Market Dominant Multi-Service Agreements with Foreign Postal Operators 1 product grouping.3

Functionally Equivalent Agreement, November 13, 2015, at 1 (Notice).

III. Commission Action


The Commission appoints James F. Gallow to represent the interests of the general public (Public Representative) in this docket.

IV. Ordering Paragraphs

It is ordered:


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

1 Notice of United States Postal Service of Type 2 Rate Adjustment, and Notice of Filing
3 Id., citing Docket No. R2012–2, Order Concerning an Additional Inbound Market Dominant Multi-Service Agreement with Foreign Postal Operators 1 Negotiated Service Agreement, November 23, 2011, at 7 (Order No. 996).

4 Id at 8–9; see Order No. 549.
3. Comments by interested persons in this proceeding are due no later than November 23, 2015.
4. The Secretary shall arrange for publication of this order in the Federal Register.

By the Commission.

Stacy L. Ruble,
Secretary.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The RRB is required by section 8(c)(1) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (45 U.S.C. 358(c)(1)) as amended by Public Law 100–647, to proclaim by October 15 of each year certain system-wide factors used in calculating experience-based employer contribution rates for the following year. The RRB is further required by section 8(c)(2) of the Act (45 U.S.C. 358(c)(2)) to publish the amounts so determined and proclaimed.

The RRB is required by section 12(r)(3) of the Act (45 U.S.C. 362(r)(3)) to publish by December 11, 2015, the computation of the calendar year 2016 monthly compensation base (section 1(i) of the Act) and amounts described in sections 1(k), 2(c), 3 and 4(a–2)(l)(A) of the Act which are related to changes in the monthly compensation base. Also, the RRB is required to publish, by June 11, 2016, the maximum daily benefit rate under section 2(a)(3) of the Act for days of unemployment and days of sickness in registration periods beginning after June 30, 2016.

Surcharge Rate

A surcharge is added in the calculation of each employer’s contribution rate, subject to the applicable maximum rate, for a calendar year whenever the balance to the credit of the RUI Account on the preceding June 30 is less than the greater of $100 million or the amount that bears the same ratio to $775 as the monthly compensation base for that year as computed under section 1(i) of the Act bears to $600” is $1,879 for months in calendar year 2016 is zero; the surcharge rate for calendar year 2016 is 1.5 percent; the monthly compensation base under section 1(i) of the Act is $1,455 for months in calendar year 2016 is 1.5 percent.

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