

• *Mail to:* Elizabeth Pentecost, RE: Green Bank Observatory, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Suite 1045, Arlington, VA 22230.

**EIS INFORMATION:** Information will be posted, throughout the EIS process, at [www.nsf.gov/AST](http://www.nsf.gov/AST).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information regarding the EIS process or Section 106 consultation, contact: Elizabeth Pentecost, National Science Foundation, Division of Astronomical Sciences, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Suite 1045, Arlington, VA 22230; telephone: (703) 292-4907; email: [epenteco@nsf.gov](mailto:epenteco@nsf.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Green Bank Observatory (GBO) is located in Pocahontas County, West Virginia adjacent to the Monongahela National Forest. NSF owns the GBO land, which consists of numerous parcels acquired by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the 1950s, when GBO was formed as the first (and then, only) site of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO). The Allegheny Trail passes through portions of the NRAO property along the Little Mountain ridgeline. GBO is the anchor and administrative site of the 13,000-square-mile National Radio Quiet Zone (NRQZ). GBO is located on approximately 2,200 acres in the NRQZ, where all radio transmissions are limited. Having telescopes within the NRQZ allows for detection of faint scientific signals that would otherwise be drowned-out by man-made signals. The GBO facilities include the Robert C. Byrd Green Bank Telescope, the largest fully steerable radio telescope in the world; the 43-meter Telescope; the Green Bank Solar Radio Burst Spectrometer; the 20-meter Geodetic Telescope; the 40-foot Telescope; the Interferometer Range; and previously operational telescopes.

The NSF Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences, Division of Astronomical Sciences, through a series of academic community-based reviews, has identified the need to divest several facilities from its portfolio. This would allow NSF to retain the balance of capabilities needed to deliver the best performance on emerging and key science technology of the present decade and beyond. In 2012, NSF's Division of Astronomical Sciences' (AST's) portfolio review committee recommended divestment of the Green Bank Telescope (GBT) from the AST portfolio, stating the following: "The GBT is the world's most sensitive single-dish radio telescope at wavelengths shorter than 10 cm; however, its capabilities are not as critical to *New World New Horizons*

[astronomy and astrophysics decadal survey] science goals as the higher-ranked facilities." In response to these recommendations, in 2016, NSF completed a feasibility study to inform and define options for the Observatory's future disposition that would involve significantly decreasing or eliminating NSF funding of Green Bank Observatory. Alternatives to be evaluated in the EIS will be refined through public input, with preliminary proposed alternatives that include the following:

- Continued NSF investment for science-focused operations (No-Action Alternative)
- Collaboration with interested parties for science- and education-focused operations with reduced NSF-funded scope
- Collaboration with interested parties for operation as a technology and education park
- Mothballing of facilities (suspension of operations in a manner such that operations could resume efficiently at some future date)
- Deconstruction and site restoration

The purpose of the public scoping process is to determine relevant issues that will influence the scope of the environmental analysis, including identifying viable alternatives. At present, NSF has identified the following preliminary resource areas to analyze potential impacts: Air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geological resources, solid waste generation, health and safety, socioeconomic, traffic, and groundwater resources. NSF will consult under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and section 7 of the Endangered Species Act in coordination with this EIS process, as appropriate. Federal, state, and local agencies, along with other stakeholders that may be interested or affected by NSF's decision on this Proposed Action are invited to participate in the scoping process and, if eligible, may request to participate as a cooperating agency.

*Scoping Meetings:* NSF will host two public scoping meetings.

- *Afternoon meeting:* November 9, 2016, at 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Green Bank Science Center, 155 Observatory Road, Green Bank, WV 24915, Telephone: (304) 456-2011.

- *Evening meeting:* November 9, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Green Bank Science Center, 155 Observatory Road, Green Bank, WV 24915, Telephone: (304) 456-2011.

Oral comments provided at the scoping meetings will be transcribed by a court reporter. Please contact NSF at

least one week in advance of the meeting if you would like to request special accommodations (*i.e.*, sign language interpretation, etc.).

Dated: October 13, 2016.

**Suzanne H. Plimpton,**  
*Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.*

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## POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. R2017-1; Order No. 3565]

### Market Dominant Price Adjustment

**AGENCY:** Postal Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission is noticing a recently-filed Postal Service notice of inflation-based rate adjustments affecting market dominant domestic and international products and services, along with numerous proposed classification changes. The adjustments and other changes are scheduled to take effect January 22, 2017. This notice informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

**DATES:** *Comments are due:* November 1, 2016.

**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:

#### Table of Contents

- I. Introduction and Overview
- II. Initial Administrative Actions
- III. Ordering Paragraphs

#### I. Introduction and Overview

On October 12, 2016, the Postal Service filed a notice of inflation-based rate adjustments affecting market dominant domestic and international products and services, along with numerous proposed classification changes.<sup>1</sup> The intended effective date is January 22, 2017. Notice at 1.

*Contents of filing.* The Postal Service's filing consists of the Notice which the

<sup>1</sup> United States Postal Service Notice of Market Dominant Price Adjustment, October 12, 2016 (Notice).

Postal Service represents addresses the data and information required under 39 CFR 3010.12; three attachments (Attachments A–C) to the Notice; and six sets of workpapers filed as library references. *See id.*

Attachment A presents the proposed rate and classification changes to the Mail Classification Schedule (MCS). *Id.* Attachment A. The other attachments address workshare discounts and related information and the price cap calculation. *See* Notice, Attachments B and C, respectively.

The library references present supporting financial documentation for the five classes of mail and for First-Class Mail International. *See* Notice at 6–7. The First-Class Mail International library reference was filed under seal.<sup>2</sup>

*Planned price adjustments.* The Postal Service's planned percentage changes by class are, on average:

| Market dominant class  | Price adjustment authority (%) |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| First-Class Mail ..... | 0.780                          |
| Standard Mail .....    | 0.895                          |
| Periodicals .....      | 0.832                          |
| Package Services ..... | 1.007                          |
| Special Services ..... | 2.536                          |

Notice at 7.

Most of the planned adjustments entail increases to market dominant rates and fees; however, in a few instances, the Postal Service proposes either no adjustment or a decrease. In addition, price adjustments for products within classes vary from the average, sometimes substantially. *See, e.g., id.* at 15, 24 (Table 5 showing range for First-Class Mail products and Table 8 showing range for Standard Mail products).

*Proposed classification changes.* The Postal Service proposes numerous classification changes in its Notice and identifies the impact on the MCS in Attachment A. *Id.* at 56–58; *id.* Attachment A.

## II. Initial Administrative Actions

The Commission hereby provides public notice of the Postal Service's filing and pursuant to 39 CFR 3010.11 establishes Docket No. R2017–1 to consider the planned price adjustments in rates and fees for market dominant postal products and services, as well as the related classification changes, identified in the Postal Service's October 12, 2016 Notice. The Commission invites comments from

interested persons on whether the Notice is consistent with 39 U.S.C. 3622 and the requirements of 39 CFR part 3010. Comments are due no later than November 1, 2016.

The Commission has posted the public portions of the Postal Service's filing on its Web site at <http://www.prc.gov>. The Commission will post revisions to the filing (if any) or other documents the Postal Service submits in this docket on its Web site, along with related Commission documents, comments, or other submissions, unless such filings are the subject of an application for non-public treatment. The Commission's policy on access to documents filed under seal appears in 39 CFR part 3007.

Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, the Commission appoints Lauren A. D'Agostino to represent the interests of the general public (Public Representative) in this proceeding.

## III. Ordering Paragraphs

*It is ordered:*

1. The Commission establishes Docket No. R2017–1 to consider planned price adjustments in rates and fees for market dominant postal products and services and related classification changes identified in the Postal Service's October 12, 2016 Notice.

2. Comments on the planned price adjustments and related classification changes are due no later than November 1, 2016.

3. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Lauren A. D'Agostino is appointed to serve as an officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in this proceeding.

4. The Commission directs the Secretary of the Commission to arrange for prompt publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

By the Commission.

**Stacy L. Ruble,**

*Secretary.*

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**BILLING CODE 7710–FW–P**

## POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. CP2017–7; CP2017–8; CP2017–9; and CP2017–10]

### New Postal Products

**AGENCY:** Postal Regulatory Commission.  
**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission is noticing recent Postal Service filings for the Commission's consideration concerning negotiated service agreements. This

notice informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

**DATES:** *Comments are due:* October 21, 2016 (Comment due date applies to all Docket Nos. listed above)

**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:

#### Table of Contents

- I. Introduction
- II. Docketed Proceeding(s)

#### I. Introduction

The Commission gives notice that the Postal Service filed request(s) for the Commission to consider matters related to negotiated service agreement(s). The request(s) may propose the addition or removal of a negotiated service agreement from the market dominant or the competitive product list, or the modification of an existing product currently appearing on the market dominant or the competitive product list.

Section II identifies the docket number(s) associated with each Postal Service request, the title of each Postal Service request, the request's acceptance date, and the authority cited by the Postal Service for each request. For each request, the Commission appoints an officer of the Commission to represent the interests of the general public in the proceeding, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505 (Public Representative). Section II also establishes comment deadline(s) pertaining to each request.

The public portions of the Postal Service's request(s) can be accessed via the Commission's Web site (<http://www.prc.gov>). Non-public portions of the Postal Service's request(s), if any, can be accessed through compliance with the requirements of 39 CFR 3007.40.

The Commission invites comments on whether the Postal Service's request(s) in the captioned docket(s) are consistent with the policies of title 39. For request(s) that the Postal Service states concern market dominant product(s), applicable statutory and regulatory requirements include 39 U.S.C. 3622, 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR part 3010, and 39 CFR part 3020, subpart B. For request(s)

<sup>2</sup> *See* Notice of the United States Postal Service of Filing of USPS–LR–R2017–1/NP1, October 12, 2016.