

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION**Submission of Information Collection for OMB Review; Comment Request; Customer Satisfaction Surveys and Focus Groups**

AGENCY: Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

ACTION: Notice of request for extension of OMB approval.

SUMMARY: The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation ("PBGC") is requesting that the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") extend approval, under the Paperwork Reduction Act, of a collection of information consisting of customer service focus groups and surveys (OMB control number 1212-0053; expires December 31, 2009). This notice informs the public of PBGC's request and solicits public comment on the collection of information.

DATES: Comments should be submitted by December 28, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, via electronic mail at OIRA_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov or by fax to 202 395-6974. A copy of PBGC's request may be obtained without charge by writing to the Disclosure Division of the Office of the General Counsel of PBGC at the above address or by visiting that office or calling 202 326-4040 during normal business hours. (TTY and TDD users may call the Federal relay service toll free at 1 800 877-8339 and ask to be connected to 202 326-4040.) The request is also available at <http://www.reginfo.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Thomas H. Gabriel, Attorney, Legislative and Regulatory Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005-4026, 202 326-4024. (TTY and TDD users may call the Federal relay service toll-free at 1 800 877-8339 and ask to be connected to 202 326-4024.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

PBGC is requesting that OMB extend its approval, for a three-year period, of a generic collection of information consisting of customer satisfaction focus groups and surveys (OMB No. 1212-0053; expires December 31, 2009). The information collection will further the

goals of Executive Order 12862, Setting Customer Service Standards, which states the Federal Government must seek to provide "the highest quality of service delivered to customers by private organizations providing a comparable or analogous service."

PBGC uses customer satisfaction focus groups and surveys to find out about the needs and expectations of its customers and assess how well it is meeting those needs and expectations. By keeping these avenues of communication open, PBGC can continually improve service to its customers, including plan participants and beneficiaries, plan sponsors and their affiliates, plan administrators, pension practitioners, and others involved in the establishment, operation and termination of plans covered by PBGC's insurance program. Because the areas of concern to PBGC and its customers vary and may quickly change, it is important that PBGC have the ability to evaluate customer concerns quickly by developing new vehicles for gathering information under this generic approval. The focus groups and surveys will provide important information on customer attitudes about the delivery and quality of agency services and will be used as part of an ongoing process to improve PBGC programs.

Participation in the focus groups and surveys will be voluntary. PBGC estimates that the annual burden for this collection of information will total 710 hours for 2,000 respondents. PBGC further estimates that the cost to respondents per burden hour will average \$72, resulting in a total cost of \$51,120 (\$72 × 710). PBGC will consult with OMB regarding each specific information collection during the approval period.

PBGC published in the **Federal Register** a notice of intention to request extension of OMB approval of this collection. 74 FR 40244 (August 11, 2009). No comments were received in response to the notice.

Issued at Washington, DC, this 19th day of November 2009.

John H. Hanley,

Director, Legislative and Regulatory Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

[FR Doc. E9-28165 Filed 11-25-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7709-01-P

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. MC2010-11 and CP2010-11; Order No. 345]

New Postal Product

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission is noticing a recently-filed Postal Service request to add Inbound Air Parcel Post at Universal Postal Union (UPU) Rates to the Competitive Product List. The Postal Service has also filed a related contract. This notice addresses procedural steps associated with these filings.

DATES: Comments are due: December 7, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system at <http://www.prc.gov>. Commenters who cannot submit their views electronically should contact the person identified in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** by telephone for advice on alternatives to electronic filing.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen L. Sharfman, General Counsel, 202-789-6820 or stephen.sharfman@prc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

- I. Introduction
- II. Notice of Filing
- III. Ordering Paragraphs

I. Introduction

On November 17, 2009, the Postal Service filed a request pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3642 and 39 CFR 3020.30 *et seq.* to add Inbound Air Parcel Post at Universal Postal Union (UPU) Rates to the Competitive Product List.¹ The Postal Service asserts that Inbound Air Parcel Post is a competitive product within the meaning of 39 U.S.C. 3632(b)(3).

The Postal Service states that prices and classifications underlying these rates are supported by Governors' Decision No. 09-15.² *Id.* at 1-2. This

¹ Request of the United States Postal Service to Add Inbound Air Parcel Post at Universal Postal Union (UPU) Rates to the Competitive Products List, Notice of Establishment of Prices and Classifications Not of General Applicability for Inbound Air Parcel Post at UPU Rates Established in Governors' Decision No. 09-15, and Application for Non-Public Treatment of Materials Filed Under Seal, November 17, 2009 (Request).

² The Request and Governors' Decision both note that the classification for Inbound Air Parcel Post was originally proposed by the Postal Service for the Mail Classification Schedule language in response to PRC Docket No. RM2007-1, Order No. 43, Order Establishing Ratemaking Regulations for Market Dominant and Competitive Products, October 29, 2007 (Order No. 43). *Id.* at 1.

Request has been assigned Docket No. MC2010–11.

The Postal Service states that Governors' Decision No. 09–15 establishes the prices for Inbound Air Parcel Post at UPU Rates and the changes in classification necessary to implement those prices. *Id.* at 3. The rates authorized by Governors' Decision No. 09–15 are inward land rates when there is no contractual relationship with the tendering postal operator at the highest possible inward land rate eligible for the United States under the Parcel Post regulations. *Id.* These rates are assigned Docket No. CP2010–11.

Request. In support of its Request, the Postal Service filed the following materials: (1) An application for non-public treatment of pricing and supporting documents filed under seal;³ (2) a Statement of Supporting Justification as required by 39 CFR 3020.32;⁴ (3) a redacted version of Governors' Decision No. 09–15 establishing prices and classifications for Inbound Air Parcel Post at UPU Rates, certification of the Governors' vote, a certification of compliance with 39 U.S.C. 3633 (a), proposed Mail Classification Schedule (MCS) language, and a Management Analysis of Inbound Air Parcel Post at UPU Rates.⁵

Air parcels comprise inbound parcels eligible to receive transportation by air rather than surface. Governors' Decision No. 09–15 at 2. The Postal Service indicates that the United States receives both air and surface parcels from foreign postal administrations which compensate the Postal Service for delivery of these parcels in the United States. Request at 2. It maintains that it has negotiated separate agreements for parcel rates with certain foreign posts, but most compensate it at the United States default rates for inbound parcel delivery. *Id.* The default rates are known as inward land rates. The Postal Service notes that inward land rates are set according to formulas in the UPU Parcel Post Regulations which constitute international law. *Id.* More specifically, the UPU Postal Operations Council sets rates.⁶ The Postal Service states that UPU Parcel Post Regulations require that rates are based on a percentage of each member's inward land rate in 2004. *Id.* at 3. UPU members may qualify for percentage "bonuses" to their base rate based upon their provision of certain value-added

services.⁷ *Id.* The Postal Service states it is responsible for gathering information that the UPU Postal Operations Council uses to calculate the rates including completion of a questionnaire on service bonus eligibility, and submission of annual inflation information from the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers. *Id.* It explains that the UPU uses this information from the member posts and publishes an annual notice in the fall establishing the postal administration's parcel rates for the following year. *Id.*

The Postal Service states that because of the unique situation of setting inward land rates, it chose to establish rates for inbound air parcels by reference to the Universal Postal Convention. *Id.*

In the Statement of Supporting Justification, Brian Hutchins, Manager, International Postal Relations, asserts that adding Inbound Air Parcel Post at UPU Rates to the competitive product list improves the Postal Service's competitive posture, will cover its attributable costs, make a positive contribution to institutional costs, and increase contribution toward the requisite 5.5 percent of the Postal Service's total institutional costs. *Id.*, Attachment 2. Thus, Mr. Hutchins contends there will be no issue of subsidization of competitive products by market dominant products as a result of this product addition. *Id.*

W. Ashley Lyons, Manager, Regulatory Reporting and Cost Analysis, Finance Department, certifies that the contract complies with 39 U.S.C. 3633(a). Request, Attachment 3. He asserts that the prices for Inbound Air Parcel Post at UPU Rates "should cover its attributable costs and preclude the subsidization of competitive products by market dominant products." *Id.*

The Postal Service filed much of the supporting materials under seal. In its Request, the Postal Service maintains that certain portions of Governors' Decision 09–15 and related financial information should remain confidential including portions of the management financial analysis of Inbound Air Parcel Post at UPU Rates and the accompanying analyses that provide prices, terms, conditions, cost data, and financial projections should remain under seal. Request at 2. Prices and classification changes established in Governors' Decision No. 09–15 are scheduled to take effect January 1, 2010. Governors' Decision No. 09–15 at 2.

II. Notice of Filings

The Commission establishes Docket Nos. MC2010–11 and CP2010–11 for consideration of the Request pertaining to the proposed Inbound Air Parcel Post at UPU Rates product and the related rates and classifications, respectively. In keeping with practice, these dockets are addressed on a consolidated basis for purposes of this order; however, future filings should be made in the specific docket in which issues being addressed pertain.

Interested persons may submit comments on whether the Postal Service's filings in the captioned dockets are consistent with the policies of 39 U.S.C. 3632, 3633, or 3642, 39 CFR part 3015, and 39 CFR 3020 subpart B. Comments are due no later than December 7, 2009. The public portions of these filings can be accessed via the Commission's Web site <http://www.prc.gov>.

The Commission appoints Paul L. Harrington to serve as Public Representative in these dockets.

III. Ordering Paragraphs

It is ordered:

1. The Commission establishes Docket Nos. MC2010–11 and CP2010–11 for consideration of the matters raised in each docket.

2. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Paul L. Harrington is appointed to serve as officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in these proceedings.

3. Comments by interested persons in these proceedings are due no later than December 7, 2009.

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

By the Commission.

Judith M. Grady,
Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. E9–28377 Filed 11–25–09; 8:45 am]

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UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

Board of Governors; Sunshine Act Meeting; Notice

Board Votes To Close December 8, 2009, Meeting

At its closed session meeting on November 12, 2009, the Board of Governors of the United States Postal Service voted unanimously to close to public observation its meeting to be held on December 8, 2009, in Washington, DC, via teleconference. The

³ Attachment 1 to the Request.

⁴ Attachment 2 to the Request.

⁵ Attachment 3 to the Request.

⁶ The UPU Postal Operations Council is a designated body of the UPU which is responsible for rate setting.

⁷ The Postal Service states that services such as "track and trace, home delivery, published delivery standards, and use of a common inquiry system" qualify UPU members for bonuses. *Id.* Members may also seek an inflation-related adjustment to the base rate which is capped at 5 percent per year.