

provided continuity of statistics since 1954 on R&D expenditures by source of funds and by science & engineering (S&E) field, with separate data requested on current fund expenditures for research equipment by S&E field. Statistics from the survey are published in NSF's annual publication series Academic Science and Engineering R&D Expenditures and are available electronically on the World Wide Web.

The survey will be submitted electronically primarily to the administrators at the Institutional Research Offices. To minimize burden and provide for security, each institution is provided with their institutional code and password. Files are pre-loaded with the institution's previous year's data, instructions, help menus, and a complete program for editing and trend checking. A link is provided to print a complete pdf survey form. Respondents are encouraged to submit their response electronically via the web. Approximately 95% responded via the web and only 15 used other means to submit their data (telephone, paper, email) to this voluntary survey in FY 2001. A total response rate of 95.6% was obtained. Burden estimates are as follows:

Years	Doctorate-granting burden hours	Masters-granting burden hours	Bachelors degree or below burden hours
FY 1999	29.3	13.0	7.4
FY 2000	28.7	12.0	10.4
FY 2001	30.2	11.9	9.0

Dated: November 26, 2002.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 02-30526 Filed 12-2-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-M

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Sunshine Act Meeting

TIME AND PLACE: 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, December 10, 2002.

PLACE: NTSB Conference Center, 429 L'Enfant Plaza SW., Washington, DC 20594.

STATUS: The One Item is Open to the Public.

MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED:

7263B Aviation Accident Report—Loss of control and impact with Pacific Ocean, Alaska Airlines flight 261, McDonnell Douglas MD-83, N963AS,

about 2.7 miles north of Anacapa Island, California, January 31, 2000.

News Media Contact: Telephone: (202) 314-6100. Individuals requesting specific accommodations should contact Ms. Carolyn Dargan at (202) 314-6305 by Friday, December 6, 2002.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Vicky D'Onofrio, (202) 314-6410.

Dated: November 29, 2002.

Vicky D'Onofrio,

Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-30775 Filed 11-29-02; 2:30 pm]

BILLING CODE 7533-01-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

DATE: Weeks of December 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2002, January 6, 2003.

PLACE: Commissioner's Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Week of December 2, 2002

Wednesday, December 4, 2002

8:45 a.m.

Discussion of security issues (closed-Ex. 1)

10 a.m.

Briefing on decommissioning bankruptcy issues (closed-Ex. 4&9)

Week of December 9, 2002—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of December 9, 2002.

Week of December 16, 2002—Tentative

Tuesday, December 17, 2002

9:30 a.m.

Briefing on policy options and recommendations for revising the NRC's process for handling discrimination issues (public meeting) (contact: Ho Nieh, 301-415-1721)

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—www.nrc.gov.

Wednesday, December 18, 2002

9:30 a.m.

Meeting with Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) (public meeting) (contact: John Larkins, 301-415-7360)

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—www.nrc.gov.

Week of December 23, 2002—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of December 23, 2002.

Week of December 30, 2002—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of December 30, 2002.

Week of January 6, 2003—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the week of January 6, 2003.

The schedule for Commission meetings is subject to change on short notice. To verify the status of meeting call (recording)—(301) 415-1292.

Contact persons for more information: R. Michelle Schroll (301) 415-1662.

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The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the Internet at : www.nrc.gov/what-we-do/policy-making/schedule/html.

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This notice is distributed by mail to several hundred subscribers; if you no longer wish to receive it, or would like to be added to the distribution, please contact the Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC 20555 (301-415-1969). In addition, distribution of this meeting notice over the Internet system is available. If you are interested in receiving this Commission meeting schedule electronically, please send an electronic message to dkw@nrc.gov.

Dated: November 27, 2002.

R. Michelle Schroll,

Acting Technical Coordinator, Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-30703 Filed 11-29-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-M

POSTAL RATE COMMISSION

[Order No. 1353]

Petition Seeking a Proceeding

AGENCY: Postal Rate Commission.

ACTION: Notice and order on petition seeking a proceeding.

SUMMARY: A petition has been filed seeking review of the jurisdictional status of numerous services offered by the Postal Service, such as First Class Phone Cards and Returns@ease. The petition also seeks, for services deemed non-jurisdictional, development of accounting and reporting rules. Although formal action on the petition has been deferred pending completion of a related Postal Service assessment, the Commission is soliciting comments from the public.

DATES: Submit comments by January 30, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system, which may be accessed at <http://www.prc.gov>. See

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for further filing information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen L. Sharfman, General Counsel, 202-789-6820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 15, 2002, Consumer Action (CA), a nonprofit membership-based organization based in San Francisco, California, filed a petition requesting the Commission to initiate proceedings concerning fourteen (14) services (or products) offered by the Postal Service to the public.¹ In support of its petition, CA incorporates by reference a letter it co-authored with the Office of the Consumer Advocate (OCA) that provides the petitioner's legal argument and the substantive and procedural relief requested.² In their joint letter, CA and OCA request the Commission to institute a proceeding: (1) To review and determine whether the enumerated services are subject to the Commission's rate and classification jurisdiction under §§ 3622 and 3623 of the Postal Reorganization Act; and (2) if some services are not subject to the Commission's jurisdiction, to establish new accounting and reporting rules to ensure a complete separation of "non-jurisdictional (domestic)" costs and revenues from those of jurisdictional services.³

Reasons for Deferring Formal Action

During the Commission's consideration of the petition, the Chairman received a letter from the Chairman of the Board of Governors noting, inter alia, that the petition had been filed, that the Board viewed its assertions very seriously, and that the Postal Service currently is conducting an evaluation of what is characterized as its "non-postal service offerings."⁴ Chairman Rider expressed the hope that, prior to addressing the request for

¹ Petition of Consumer Action Requesting that the Commission Institute Proceedings to (1) Review the Jurisdictional Status of Fourteen Specified Services and (2) Establish Rules to Require a Full Accounting of the Costs and Revenues of Non-Jurisdictional Services, October 15, 2002 (Petition).

² Id. at 3. The joint letter is attached to the petition.

³ See Joint Letter at 4; see also Petition at 1. The fourteen services identified are: Liberty Cash, Sure Money, Online Payment Services, including eBillPay, Pay@Delivery, and USPS Send Money, ePayments, NetPost CardStore, NetPost Certified Mail, Electronic Postmark, Unisite Antenna Program, Returns@Ease, Mall Package Shipment Program, First Class Phone Cards, and Retail Merchandise. CA and OCA also reserve the right to supplement the list should other such services come to light.

⁴ Letter to the Honorable George A. Omas from the Honorable Robert F. Rider, Chairman of the Board of Governors, November 14, 2002, at 1 (Rider Letter). This letter and Chairman Omas's reply are posted on the Commission's Web site.

a formal proceeding, the Commission would afford the Postal Service an opportunity to comment on the issues and further that it first be able to complete its internal review.⁵ It is anticipated that the review will be completed by early January 2003.⁶

The petition and all related correspondence are available on the Commission's Web site, <http://www.prc.gov>. On the Commission's home page, this material can be accessed by clicking on "Contents" and then either on "Docketed Cases & Matters," or on "Pending Cases & Matters." It can be found under "Other Matters," where it is listed separately.

Taking into consideration both the representations in Chairman Rider's letter and the lack of any statutorily imposed deadlines, the Commission finds it appropriate to accede to the request to defer action on the petition pending completion of the Postal Service's internal review. The brief deferral should not prejudice the petitioner. Moreover, the scope of the issues raised may be significantly clarified by the results of the Postal Service's review, which, it is indicated, will "bear substantially on the representations in the petition."⁷

Comments

In the interim, interested persons may review the petition and advise the Commission on the most appropriate way to proceed. Comments are due by no later than January 30, 2003.

Ordering Paragraphs

It is ordered:

1. Notice is hereby given of the petition of Consumer Action requesting that the Commission institute proceedings to (1) review the jurisdictional status of 14 specified services and (2) establish rules to require a full accounting of the costs and revenues of non-jurisdictional services, filed October 15, 2002.

2. Comments from interested persons concerning how the Commission should proceed with the petition are due no later than January 30, 2003.

3. The Secretary shall arrange for publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Additional Note on Filing Procedure

The comment period on the joint petition coincides with a formal transition from rules of practice based on traditional hard copy filing, with an electronic filing option, to mandatory

use of the Commission's Filing Online system, which can be accessed via <http://www.prc.gov>. See Order No. 1349 in Docket No. RM2002-1 (67 FR 67552), recently-adopted 39 CFR § 3001.9. A User's Guide to the new filing system is also available on the Commission's Web site. The effective date of the switch to mandatory electronic filing is January 7, 2003. Prior to that date, those wishing to comment on the petition may file either hard copy or electronic submissions; on or after January 7, 2003, they should submit comments electronically.

By the Commission.

Issued November 21, 2002.

Steven W. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-30539 Filed 12-2-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-FW-P

POSTAL SERVICE

Postage Evidencing Product Submission Procedures; Correction

AGENCY: Postal Service.

ACTION: Final notice of procedures; correction.

SUMMARY: The Postal Service is correcting an error in the printing of the final product submission procedures published in the **Federal Register** November 5, 2002 (Vol. 67, No. 214, pages 67425-67430).

DATES: The procedures were effective November 5, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wayne Wilkerson, manager, Postage Technology Management, by fax at 703-292-4050.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: When the notice of the final Product Submission Procedures was published on November 5, 2002, several lines were inadvertently omitted from the table of Required Documentation in section 4.2 on pages 67428 to 67429. We are reprinting the final procedures here in full for reader convenience.

Product Submission Procedures for Postage Meters (Postage Evidencing Systems)

1. General Information

1.1 Independent Testing Laboratory

To receive authorization from the Postal Service to manufacture, produce, or distribute a postage meter (postage evidencing system) under 39 CFR part 501, Authorization to Manufacture and Distribute Postage Meters, the provider must obtain approval under these product submission procedures. These

⁵ Rider Letter at 2.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Id. at 1.