

Global Direct, Global Bulk Economy, and Global Plus Contracts; and

- Attachment 4—an application for non-public treatment of materials to maintain redacted portions of the contract and supporting documents under seal.

The Postal Service states that the instant Agreement fits within the Mail Classification Schedule language for Global Direct Contracts included in Governors' Decision No. 08–10, with the modification proposed by the Commission to reflect the actual payment practice under these types of agreements. *Id.* at 2 (*citing* Order No. 153 at 9).

The Notice advances reasons why the instant Agreement is functionally equivalent to the previous Global Direct Contracts 1 agreement in Docket Nos. MC2010–17 and CP2010–18. *Id.* at 3. Aside from cosmetic or customer-specific updates, the Postal Service contends that the only differences are that the instant Agreement (1) concerns Global Direct service used with Admail to Canada; (2) contains more detailed procedures relating to penalties for mail that does not comply with applicable regulations; (3) addresses actual and potential changes in pricing; and (4) revises minimum commitments and annexes. *Id.* at 3–4. Despite these differences, the Postal Service contends that the instant contract is functionally equivalent to the Global Direct Contracts 1 agreement filed previously because the core terms and conditions remain the same. *Id.* at 4.

The Postal Service asserts that “the cost and market characteristics of this agreement are substantially similar to those of prior Global Direct contracts” and that the Agreement complies with the requirements of 39 U.S.C. 3633. *Id.* It requests that the Commission include this Agreement within the Global Direct Contracts 1 product. *Id.*

II. Notice of Filing

The Commission establishes Docket No. CP2012–9 to consider matters related to the contract identified in the Notice.

Interested persons may submit comments on whether the Postal Service's contract is consistent with the policies of 39 U.S.C. 3632 or 3633 and 39 CFR part 3015. Comments are due no later than January 10, 2012. The public portions of these filings can be accessed via the Commission's Web site (<http://www.prc.gov>).

The Commission appoints Natalie Rea Ward to serve as Public Representative in the captioned filings.

III. Ordering Paragraphs

It is Ordered

1. The Commission establishes Docket No. CP2012–9 to consider matters raised by the Postal Service's Notice.

2. Comments by interested persons in these proceedings are due no later than January 10, 2012.

3. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Natalie Rea Ward is appointed to serve as the officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in these proceedings.

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

By the Commission.

Shoshana M. Grove,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2012–145 Filed 1–6–12; 8:45 am]

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POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. A2012–93; Order No. 1081]

Post Office Closing

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This document informs the public that an appeal of the closing of the Odin, Minnesota post office has been filed. It identifies preliminary steps and provides a procedural schedule. Publication of this document will allow the Postal Service, petitioners, and others to take appropriate action.

DATES: January 24, 2012, 4:30 p.m., Eastern Time: Deadline for answering brief in support of the Postal Service. See the Procedural Schedule in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for other dates of interest.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically by accessing the “Filing Online” link in the banner at the top of the Commission's Web site (<http://www.prc.gov>) or by directly accessing the Commission's Filing Online system at <https://www.prc.gov/prc-pages/filing-online/login.aspx>. Commenters who cannot submit their views electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section as the source for case-related information for advice on alternatives to electronic filing.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen L. Sharfman, General Counsel, at (202) 789–6820 (case-related information) or DocketAdmins@prc.gov (electronic filing assistance).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 404(d), the Commission received two petitions for review of the Postal Service's determination to close the Odin post office in Odin, Minnesota. The first petition for review received November 30, 2011, was filed by Paul S. Berg. The second petition for review received November 30, 2011, was filed by Robert D. Harder. The earliest postmark date is November 19, 2011. The Commission hereby institutes a proceeding under 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5) and establishes Docket No. A2012–93 to consider Petitioners' appeal. If Petitioners would like to further explain their position with supplemental information or facts, Petitioners may either file a Participant Statement on PRC Form 61 or file a brief with the Commission no later than January 5, 2012.

Notwithstanding the Postal Service's determination to close this post office, on December 15, 2011, the Postal Service advised the Commission that it “will delay the closing or consolidation of any Post Office until May 15, 2012”.¹ The Postal Service further indicated that it “will proceed with the discontinuance process for any Post Office in which a Final Determination was already posted as of December 12, 2011, including all pending appeals.” *Id.* It stated that the only “Post Offices” subject to closing prior to May 16, 2012, are those that were not in operation on, and for which a Final Determination was posted as of, December 12, 2011. It affirmed that it “will not close or consolidate any other Post Office prior to May 16, 2012.” *Id.* Lastly, the Postal Service requested the Commission “to continue adjudicating appeals as provided in the 120-day decisional schedule for each proceeding.” *Id.*

The Postal Service's Notice outlines the parameters of its newly announced discontinuance policy. Pursuant to the Postal Service's request, the Commission will fulfill its appellate responsibilities under 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5).

Categories of issues apparently raised. Petitioners contend that (1) the Postal Service failed to consider whether or not it will continue to provide a maximum degree of effective and regular postal services to the community (*see* 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(2)(A)(iii)); and (2) the Postal Service failed to provide substantial evidence in support of the determination (*see* 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5)(c)).

¹ United States Postal Service Notice of Status of the Moratorium on Post Office Discontinuance Actions, December 15, 2011, (Notice).

After the Postal Service files the administrative record and the Commission reviews it, the Commission may find that there are more legal issues than those set forth above, or that the Postal Service's determination disposes of one or more of those issues. The deadline for the Postal Service to file the applicable administrative record is within 15 days after the date on which the petition for review was filed with the Commission. *See* 39 CFR 3001.113. In addition, the due date for any responsive pleading by the Postal Service is also within 15 days after the date on which the petition for review was filed with the Commission.

Availability; Web site posting. The Commission has posted the appeal and supporting material on its Web site at <http://www.prc.gov>. Additional filings in this case and participant's submissions also will be posted on the Web site, if provided in electronic format or amenable to conversion, and not subject to a valid protective order. Information on how to use the Commission's Web site is available online or by contacting the Commission's Webmaster via telephone at (202) 789-6873 or via electronic mail at prc-webmaster@prc.gov.

The appeal and all related documents are also available for public inspection in the Commission's docket section.

Docket section hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, except on Federal government holidays. Docket section personnel may be contacted via electronic mail at prc-dockets@prc.gov or via telephone at (202) 789-6846.

Filing of documents. All filings of documents in this case shall be made using the Internet (Filing Online) pursuant to Commission rules 9(a) and 10(a) at the Commission's Web site, <http://www.prc.gov>, unless a waiver is obtained. *See* 39 CFR 3001.9(a) and 3001.10(a). Instructions for obtaining an account to file documents online may be found on the Commission's Web site, <http://www.prc.gov>, or by contacting the Commission's docket section at prc-dockets@prc.gov or via telephone at (202) 789-6846.

Commission reserves the right to redact personal information which may infringe on an individual's privacy rights from documents filed in this proceeding.

Intervention. Persons, other than the Petitioners and respondents, wishing to be heard in this matter are directed to file a notice of intervention. *See* 39 CFR 3001.111(b). Notices of intervention in this case are to be filed on or before January 23, 2012. A notice of intervention shall be filed using the Internet (Filing Online) at the Commission's Web site, <http://www.prc.gov>.

www.prc.gov, unless a waiver is obtained for hardcopy filing. *See* 39 CFR 3001.9(a) and 3001.10(a).

Further procedures. By statute, the Commission is required to issue its decision within 120 days from the date it receives the appeal. *See* 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5). A procedural schedule has been developed to accommodate this statutory deadline. In the interest of expedition, in light of the 120-day decision schedule, the Commission may request the Postal Service or other participants to submit information or memoranda of law on any appropriate issue. As required by Commission rules, if any motions are filed, responses are due 7 days after any such motion is filed. *See* 39 CFR 3001.21.

It is ordered:

1. The procedural schedule listed below is hereby adopted.

2. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Pamela A. Thompson is designated officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public.

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

By the Commission.

Shoshana M. Grove,
Secretary.

PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

November 30, 2011	Filing of Appeal.
December 15, 2011	Deadline for the Postal Service to file the applicable administrative record in this appeal.
December 15, 2011	Deadline for the Postal Service to file any responsive pleading.
January 23, 2012	Deadline for notices to intervene (<i>see</i> 39 CFR 3001.111(b)).
January 4, 2012	Deadline for Petitioners' Form 61 or initial brief in support of petition (<i>see</i> 39 CFR 3001.115(a) and (b)).
January 24, 2012	Deadline for answering brief in support of the Postal Service (<i>see</i> 39 CFR 3001.115(c)).
February 8, 2012	Deadline for reply briefs in response to answering briefs (<i>see</i> 39 CFR 3001.115(d)).
February 15, 2012	Deadline for motions by any party requesting oral argument; the Commission will schedule oral argument only when it is a necessary addition to the written filings (<i>see</i> 39 CFR 3001.116).
March 16, 2012	Expiration of the Commission's 120-day decisional schedule (<i>see</i> 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5)).

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POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. A2012-94; Order No. 1082]

Post Office Closing

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This document informs the public that an appeal of the closing of the Alvord, Iowa post office has been filed. It identifies preliminary steps and provides a procedural schedule. Publication of this document will allow

the Postal Service, petitioners, and others to take appropriate action.

DATES: January 25, 2012, 4:30 p.m., Eastern Time: Deadline for answering brief in support of the Postal Service. *See* the Procedural Schedule in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for other dates of interest.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically by accessing the "Filing Online" link in the banner at the top of the Commission's Web site (<http://www.prc.gov>) or by directly accessing the Commission's Filing Online system at <https://www.prc.gov/prc-pages/filing-online/login.aspx>. Commenters who cannot submit their views electronically

should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section as the source for case-related information for advice on alternatives to electronic filing.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen L. Sharfman, General Counsel, at (202) 789-6820 (case-related information) or DocketAdmins@prc.gov (electronic filing assistance).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 404(d), the Commission received five petitions for review of the Postal Service's determination to close the Alvord post office in Alvord, Iowa. The first petition for review received