

POSTAL SERVICE**39 CFR Part 20****International Priority Airmail Service; Proposed Changes****AGENCY:** Postal Service.**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Postal Service proposes to change the postage rates and conditions of service for International Priority Airmail service (IPA). In addition to adjusting rates, the Postal Service is changing country rate groups to be the same as International Surface Air Lift service (ISAL) and increasing the minimum weight from 10 to 11 pounds of mail. Also, acceptance of IPA will be extended to all post offices accepting bulk mail.

DATES: Comments on the proposed changes must be received on or before December 28, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to the Manager, International Pricing, Costing, and Classification, Room 370-IBU, International Business Unit, U.S. Postal Service, Washington, DC 20260-6500. Copies of all written comments will be available for public inspection between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, in the International Business Unit, 10th Floor, 901 D Street SW, Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Walter J. Grandjean, (202) 314-7256 or Dan Singer, (202) 314-3422.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: International Priority Airmail service (IPA) is a volume airmail letter service. Mailers have the opportunity to benefit from work sharing with the Postal Service and gain improved speed of delivery for presorted mail, which the Postal Service does not have to sort.

The Postal Service recently adopted program changes to International Surface Air Lift Service (ISAL) on February 28, 1998, (63 FR 3642-3650) and is now proposing changes to IPA which will align it with ISAL in rate structure and preparation requirements. This will make it easier for mailers to participate in either service.

Minimum Weight

The Postal Service is increasing the minimum weight for direct country and mixed direct country package sacks from 10 to 11 pounds. This reflects the desired minimum sack which the Postal Service normally dispatches to other countries and matches the sack weights recently adopted in ISAL. This will cause the minimum weight for a mailing to be increased to 11 pounds. In addition, a package of mail will be

defined as 10 or more pieces or 1 pound of mail to coincide with the definition used in ISAL. "Bundles" will be referred to as "packages" in the future.

Acceptance Cities

Since the inception of IPA, the Postal Service has limited the number of cities where IPA mailings could be deposited. This was intended to reduce the cost of maintaining an extensive transportation network, but many customers not located near an acceptance point could not use IPA. The Postal Service proposes a Full Service rate that will be available from all post offices where bulk mail is accepted and will make IPA accessible to all customers. Additionally, a drop shipment option is added.

Volume Discounts

The Postal Service proposes discounts for IPA based on the amount of postage spent by a mailer in the preceding postal fiscal year for both IPA and ISAL. For example, a mailer spending \$2 million or more for IPA and ISAL during postal fiscal year 1996 (September 16, 1995-September 13, 1996) will receive a 5 percent discount on IPA mailings made during the next fiscal year, 1997 (September 14, 1996-September 12, 1997). Mailers spending over \$5 million receive a 10 percent discount and a 15 percent discount for over \$10 million. These discounts apply to full service and drop ship rates. The discount is calculated on the mailing statement.

Drop Ship Rates

The Postal Service is introducing drop ship rates for mailers willing to transport their mail to certain locations. The Postal Service avoids certain processing, handling, and transportation costs and these savings are being passed on to the mailer. Drop ship sites are located in the following locations: Jamaica, NY; Miami, FL; Franklin Park, IL; and San Francisco, CA.

Although exempt from the notice and comment requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 553(b), (c) regarding proposed rulemaking by 39 U.S.C. 410 (a), the Postal Service invites comments on the following proposed revisions of Chapter 280 of the International Mail Manual, incorporated by reference in the Code of Federal Regulations. See 30 CFR 20.1.

List of Subjects in 39 CFR Part 20

Foreign relations, Incorporation by reference, International postal services.

Part 20—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for 39 CFR Part 20 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 552(a); 39 U.S.C. 401, 404, 407, 408.

2. The International Mail Manual is amended to incorporate program changes to Subchapter 280 International Priority Airmail Service as follows:

280 INTERNATIONAL PRIORITY AIRMAIL SERVICE**281 Description****281.1 General**

International Priority Airmail (IPA) service is as fast as or faster than regular international airmail service. It is available to bulk mailers of all LC and AO items that are prepared by the sender in accordance with the requirements of this subchapter. Separate rates are provided for presorted mail and nonpresorted mail with drop shipment and volume discounts.

281.2 Qualifying Mail

Any item of the LC or AO classification, as defined in 141.2, qualifies. Letters, letter packages, postal cards, aerogrammes, regular printed matter, books and sheet music, publishers' periodicals, matter for the blind, and small packets, which are prepared in compliance with the applicable mailing conditions in this subchapter, may be sent in this service. Items do not have to be of the same size and weight to qualify.

281.3 Minimum Quantity Requirements**281.31 Worldwide Nonpresort Mail**

The mailer must have a minimum of 11 pounds of LC/AO mail in the total mailing. The minimum does not apply to each country destination.

281.32 Presort Mail

The mailer must have a minimum of 11 pounds of presorted LC/AO mail to a single rate group to qualify for the presort rate for that rate group.

Note: Mail that cannot be made up in direct country packages (284.521) or in direct country sacks (284.61) does not qualify for the presort rates and is subject to the worldwide nonpresort rates.

281.4 Dutiable Items

Dutiable items may be sent in LC letter packages or AO small packets in accordance with the applicable rules in this subchapter for those classes of mail. Parcel post (CP) items, either ordinary or insured, may not be mailed as International Priority Airmail.

281.5 Deposit**281.51 Full Service**

Mailings must be deposited and accepted at a business mail entry unit of the post office where the mailer holds an advance deposit account or postage meter license.

281.52 Drop Shipment

To qualify for the drop shipment rates, the mailer must tender the mail to one of the locations in 281.53. The mailer must pay postage at the drop shipment location either through an advance deposit account or postage meter license at the serving post office.

As an alternative, mailers who are participating in a PVDS program (see DMM P750) may have the mail verified, accepted and paid for at the mailer's plant or at the origin post office serving the mailer's plant if authorized under DMM P750.2.2. Plant-verified drop shipment mail must be transported by the mailer to the drop shipment location and the mail accompanied by a clearance document Form 8125.

281.53 Drop Shipment Locations

Drop shipment rates are available from the following offices:

New York

Regular and plant-verified drop shipment:

AMC JFK BUILDING 250
JFK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
JAMAICA NY 11430-9998

California

Regular drop shipment:

SAN FRANCISCO P&DC
1300 EVANS AVE
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94188

Plant-verified drop shipment:

AMC SAN FRANCISCO
BLDG 660 RD 6
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94158-9998

Florida

Regular drop shipment:

MIAMI P&DC
2200 NORTHWEST 72 AVE
MIAMI FL 33152

Plant-verified drop shipment:

AMC MIAMI
MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
MIAMI FL 33159-9998

Illinois

Regular and plant-verified drop shipment:

CHICAGO O'HARE DROPSHIP ISAL
SERVICE CENTER
INTERNATIONAL PROCESSING
CENTER ANNEX
3333 N MOUNT PROSPECT RD

FRANKLIN PARK IL 60131

281.6 Special Services Not Available

Items sent in this service may not be registered.

282 Postage**282.1 Rates****282.11 General**

There are two rate options for International Priority Airmail service: a presort rate option that has four rate groups and a worldwide nonpresort rate. For both options there are full service rates for mail deposited at offices other than the four drop shipment offices listed in 281.5, and drop ship rates for mail deposited at one of the four drop shipment offices. The per-piece rates and per-pound rates are shown in Exhibit 282.11. The per-piece rate of \$0.10 or \$0.25 applies to each piece regardless of its weight. The per-pound rate applies to the net weight (gross weight minus tare weight of sack) of the mail for the specific rate group. Fractions of a pound are rounded to the next whole pound for postage calculation.

EXHIBIT 282.11—INTERNATIONAL
PRIORITY AIRMAIL RATES

| Rate group | Piece rate | Pound rate | |
|-----------------|------------|--------------|----------|
| | | Full service | Dropship |
| 1 | \$0.25 | \$5.00 | \$4.00 |
| 2 | 0.10 | 5.25 | 4.25 |
| 3 | 0.10 | 6.50 | 5.50 |
| 4 | 0.10 | 7.50 | 6.50 |
| Worldwide | 0.25 | 7.00 | 6.00 |

282.12 Volume Discount

Mailers who spend \$2 million or more on IPA and ISAL in the preceding postal fiscal year may receive discounts off the rates shown in Exhibit 282.11 as follows:

- \$2 million to \$5 million: 5% discount
- over \$5 million to \$10 million: 10% discount
- over \$10 million: 15% discount

Mailers entitled to these discounts must place the full per piece rate on each piece of mail if payment is by postage meter or mailer-precanceled stamps. The discount is calculated on the statement of mailing.

282.13 Qualifying for Volume Discounts

To qualify for volume discounts, mailers must apply in writing to the Manager, Mail Order, International Business Unit, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW, Room 370-IBU, Washington, DC 20260-6500. The Manager evaluates all

requests and informs the mailer and the post office(s) of mailing whether discounts are approved and the level of discount. Mailers must supply the following information:

- Postal fiscal year for the qualifying mail.
- Permit number(s) and post office(s) where the permits are held.
- Total revenue for the postal fiscal year.
- Post office(s) where the discount is to be claimed.

The combined IPA and ISAL revenue is counted toward the discounts. The Postal Service will count as revenue to qualify for the volume discounts only postage paid by the permit holder. If a permit holder has more than one account, or accounts in several cities, then these revenues may be combined to qualify for discounts. Agents who prepare mail for the owner of the mail and mail paid by the owner's permit may not be included in the revenue to qualify for the discounts, except for the initial year (Postal Fiscal Year 1997, September 14, 1996, through September 12, 1997). Customers may be required to substantiate their request by providing copies of all postage statements for the appropriate postal fiscal year. All decisions of the Manager, Mail Order are final.

282.14 Availability

IPA service is available to all foreign countries, as listed in Exhibit 284.522. The exhibit shows the rate group assigned to each country.

282.15 Presort Rates

To qualify for the presort Group 1, 2, 3, or 4 rates (see Exhibit 282.11), a mailing must consist of a minimum of 11 pounds to a specific rate group. This minimum applies to each rate group and not to the entire mailing (see 281.32). Within a rate group all mail addressed to an individual country must be sorted into direct country packages of 10 or more pieces (or 1 pound or more of mail) (284.521) and/or sacked in direct country sacks of 11 pounds or more (284.61). Mail that cannot be made up into direct country packages or direct country sacks must be sent at the worldwide nonpresort rates.

282.16 Separation by Rate Group

The mailer must specify the rate group on the back of Tag 115, International Priority Airmail, with the number 1, 2, 3, 4 or WW (Worldwide), and must physically separate the sacks by rate group at the time of mailing.

282.17 Computation of Postage

Postage is computed on PS Form 3652, Postage Statement—International Priority Airmail. Postage at the worldwide nonpresort rate is calculated by multiplying the number of pieces in the mailing by the applicable per-piece rate, multiplying the net weight (in whole pounds) of the entire mailing by the applicable per-pound rate, and then adding the two totals together. Postage at the presorted rates is calculated by multiplying the number of pieces in the mailing destined for countries in a specific rate group by the appropriate per-piece rate, multiplying the net weight (in whole pounds) of those pieces by the corresponding per-pound rate, and then adding the two totals together. Volume discounts are calculated on the postage statement.

282.2 Postage Payment Methods**282.21 General****282.211 Postage Meter or Permit Imprint**

Postage must be paid by postage meter, permit imprint, or mailer precanceled stamps (see DMM P023.3.0) or a combination. Postage charges are computed on PS Form 3652.

282.212 Piece Rate Portion

The applicable per-piece postage must be affixed to each piece by meter unless postage is paid by permit imprint (see 282.23).

282.213 Pound Rate Portion

Postage for the pound rate portion must be paid either by meter stamp(s) attached to the postage statement or from the mailer's authorized permit imprint advance deposit account.

282.22 Postage Meter**282.221 Postage Endorsement**

When postage is paid by meter or mailer precanceled stamps, each piece must be legibly endorsed with the words "INTERNATIONAL PRIORITY AIRMAIL."

282.222 Specifications for Endorsement

The endorsement required in 282.221 must appear on the address side of each piece and must be applied by a printing press, hand stamp, or other similar printing device. It must be printed above the name of the addressee and to the left or below the postage, or it may be printed adjacent to the meter stamp in either the postal inscription slug area or ad plate area. If the postal endorsement appears in the ad plate area, no other information may be printed in the ad plate. The

endorsement may not be typewritten or hand drawn. The endorsement is not considered adequate if it is included as part of a decorative design or advertisement.

282.223 Unmarked Pieces

Unmarked pieces lacking the postage endorsement required by 282.221 are subject to the applicable LC/AO airmail single piece rates.

282.224 Drop Shipment of Metered Mail

Mailers who want to enter metered IPA mail at a post office other than where the meter is licensed must obtain a drop shipment authorization. To obtain an authorization, the mailer must submit a written request to the postmaster at the office where the mail will be entered. (see DMM D072).

282.23 Permit Imprint

Mailers may use a permit imprint for mailings that contain identical weight pieces. Any of the permit imprints shown in Exhibit 152.3 are acceptable. The postage charges are computed on PS Form 3652 and deducted from the advance deposit account. Permit imprints must not denote Priority Mail, bulk mail, nonprofit, or other domestic or special rate mail. Mailers may use permit imprint with nonidentical weight pieces only if authorized to use postage mailing systems under DMM P710, P720, or P730.

283 Weight and Size Limits

See 223 and 233 for the weight and size limits for LC items sent in this service. See 243, 253, and 263 for the weight and size limits for AO items sent in this service.

284 Preparation Requirements for Individual Items**284.1 Addressing**

See 122.

284.2 Marking**284.21 Airmail**

The sender should mark "PAR AVION" or "AIR MAIL" on the address side of each piece. Use of bordered airmail envelopes is optional and may be used for items sent in this service if the envelope contains the "AIR MAIL" endorsement.

284.22 Class of Mail**284.221 Printed Matter**

Printed matter is endorsed as required by weight:

a. Items weighing more than 4 pounds must be marked to specify the type of printed matter: "PRINTED MATTER,"

"PRINTED MATTER—BOOKS," "PRINTED MATTER—SHEET MUSIC," or "PRINTED MATTER—PERIODICALS," as appropriate (see 244.211).

b. Items weighing 4 pounds or less do not require any printed matter endorsement but may be marked with the endorsements in 284.221a at the mailer's option. Unmarked printed matter items are subject to the mailing conditions for letters (see 220).

284.222 Letters/Letter Packages

Letters and letter packages that might be mistaken for another class of mail because of their weight or appearance should be marked "LETTER" on the address side (see 224.2).

284.223 Small Packets

Each small packet must be marked "SMALL PACKET" (see 264.21).

284.3 Sealing

Any item sent in this service may be sealed at the option of the sender.

284.4 Packaging

All items must be placed in envelopes or prepared in package form. See 224.4 for LC mail and 244.4 for AO mail.

284.5 Sorting Requirements for IPA**284.51 Worldwide Nonpresorted Mail****284.511 Working Packages**

IPA mail paid at the nonpresorted rate must be made up into working packages. Letters and flats must be packaged separately, although nonidentical pieces may be commingled within each of these categories. Pieces that cannot be packaged because of their physical characteristics must be placed loose in the sack.

284.512 Facing of Nonpresorted Mail Within Package

All pieces in the working packages must be faced the same way.

284.52 Presorted Mail**284.521 Direct Country Packages**

When there are ten or more pieces or 1 pound or more of mail for the same country (except Great Britain and Mexico), it must be made up into a country package. Great Britain and Mexico require a finer sortation (see 284.523). At the mailer's option, a finer breakdown by city or postal code may be made based on sortation information provided by the postal administration of the destination country.

284.522 Country Package Label

a. The label (facing slip) for country packages that contain ten or more pieces

to a specific country (except for Great Britain and Mexico) must be completed as follows:

Line 1: Foreign Exchange Office
Line 2: Country of Destination
Line 3: Mailer, Mailer Location

Example

1150 VIENNA FLUG
AUSTRIA
RBA COMPANY WASHINGTON DC

b. See Exhibit 284.522 for Direct Country Package Label and Tag 178, CN 35 Par Avion, for information.

284.523 Country Packages to Great Britain and Mexico

Country packages to Great Britain and Mexico must be made up as follows:

a. Great Britain. When there are 10 or more pieces or 1 pound or more of mail per separation, mail to Great Britain must be sorted into packages as follows:

Separation Exchange Office (Line 1 Package Label):

LONDON CITY LONDONTOWN
SCOTLAND GLASGOW FWD
NORTHERN IRELAND BELFAST FWD
ALL OTHER GREAT BRITAIN GREAT
BRITAIN, GREAT BRITAIN

Example

LONDONTOWN
GREAT BRITAIN
MAILER, MAILER LOCATION

b. Mexico. Mail to Mexico must be sorted based on state separations. When a state separation contains ten or more pieces or 1 pound or more of mail, it must be packaged and labeled to the designated foreign exchange office shown in Exhibit 284.523. When there are less than ten pieces or 1 pound to one or more states in the grouping, package and label these pieces to the designated foreign exchange office listed for "Remaining." When there are less than ten pieces or 1 pound to one or more states in the grouping, package and label these pieces to the designated foreign exchange office listed for "Remaining."

Example: MEXICO 506 DF MEXICO
MAILER, MAILER LOCATION.

Exception: When there are less than ten pieces or 1 pound of mail to the Mexican states of Baja Calif Norte, Baja Calif Sur, Chihuahua, Distrito Federal (Mexico City), Guerrero, and Sonora, package the pieces separately and affix a facing slip labeled to the U.S. International Exchange Office listed in Exhibit 284.622.

284.524 Facing of Pieces Within Country Package

All pieces in the country package must be faced in the same direction and

a facing slip identifying the contents of the package must be placed on the address side of the top piece of each package in such a manner that it will not become separated from the package.

Note: The pressure-sensitive labels and optional endorsement lines used domestically for presort mail are prohibited for International Priority Airmail.

284.53 Physical Characteristics and Requirements for Packages

284.531 Thickness

Packages of letter-size mail should be no thicker than approximately a handful of mail (4 to 6 inches thick).

284.532 Securing Packages

Each package must be securely tied. Placing rubber bands around the length and then the girth is the preferred method of securing packages of letter-size mail. Plastic strapping placed around the length and then the girth is the preferred method of securing packages of flat-size mail.

284.533 Separation of Packages

Letter-size and flat-size mail must be packaged separately. LC and AO mail classes may be commingled in a letter-size or flat-size mail package.

284.6 Sacking Requirements

284.61 Direct Country Sack (11 Pounds or More)

284.611 General

When there are 11 or more pounds of mail addressed to the same country (including Great Britain and Mexico), the mail must be packaged and enclosed in blue international airmail sacks and labeled to the country with Tag 178, Airmail Bag Label LC (CN 35/AV 8) (white). All types of mail, including letter-size packages, flat-size packages, and loose items for each destination, can be commingled in the same sack and counted toward the 11-pound minimum.

284.612 Direct Country Sack Tags

Direct country sacks must be labeled with Tag 178. The tag is white and specially coded to route the mail to a specific country and airport of destination. The blocks on the tag for date, weight, and dispatch information must be completed by the Postal Service and may not be completed by the mailer. The mailer must complete the "To" block showing the destination country. Tag 115, International Priority Airmail, must also be affixed to the Direct Country Sacks. Tag 115 is a "Day-Glo" pink tag that identifies the mail to ensure it receives priority handling. The mailer must designate on the back of

Tag 115 the applicable rate group, using a number 1, 2, 3, 4, or WW (Worldwide).

284.62 Mixed Direct Country Package Sacks

284.621 General

The direct country packages containing 10 or more pieces or 1 pound or more of mail destined to a specific country that cannot be made up in direct country sacks must be enclosed in orange Priority Mail sacks unless other equipment is specified by the acceptance office.

284.622 Mixed Direct Country Sack Label

The sack label must be completed as follows. (See Exhibit 284.622 for list of U.S. International Exchange Offices.)

Line 1: Appropriate U.S. Exchange Office and Routing Code
Line 2: Contents—DRX
Line 3: Mailer, Mailer Location

Example

AMC SEATTLE WA 980
INT'L PRIORITY AIRMAIL—DRX
ABC STORE SEATTLE WA

284.63 Worldwide Nonpresort Mail Sacks

284.631 General

The working packages of mixed country mail and loose items must be enclosed in orange Priority Mail sacks unless other equipment is specified by the acceptance office. Nonpresorted letter-size mail may be presented in trays if authorized by the acceptance office.

Note: Working packages of mixed country mail cannot be enclosed in mixed direct country package sacks.

284.632 Worldwide Nonpresort Mail Sack Label

The sack label must be completed as follows:

Line 1: Appropriate U.S. Exchange Office and Routing Code
Line 2: Contents—WKG
Line 3: Mailer, Mailer Location

Example

AMC ATLANTA GA 300
INT'L PRIORITY AIRMAIL—WKG
CPA COMPANY ATLANTA GA

See Exhibit 284.622 for list of U.S. International Exchange Offices.

284.64 Tags and Weight Maximum for Sacks

284.641 Tag 115 and Tag 178

All IPA sacks (direct country, mixed direct country package sacks, and worldwide nonpresort mail sacks) must

be labeled with Tag 115, International Priority Airmail. Tag 115 is a "Day-Glo" pink tag that identifies IPA mail to ensure that it receives priority treatment. Tag 178 (see section 284.611) is a dispatching tag to be used only for direct country sacks. Tag 178 is white and specially coded to route the mail to a specific country and airport of destination. The Postal Service must

complete the blocks on the tag for date, weight, and dispatch information. The mailer must complete only the "To" block showing the destination country. Postal tags and sacks are available from the post office.

284.642 Sack Weight Maximum

The maximum weight of the sack and contents must not exceed 66 pounds.

284.7 Customs Forms Requirements

284.71 Letters and Letter Packages

See 224.5.

284.72 Printed Matter

See 244.6.

284.73 Small Packets

See 264.5.

EXHIBIT 284.522—FOREIGN EXCHANGE OFFICE AND COUNTRY RATE GROUPS, INFORMATION FOR DIRECT COUNTRY PACKAGE LABEL (FACING SLIP), TAG 178, 3-LETTER COUNTRY EXCHANGE OFFICE CODE, AND EXCHANGE OFFICE

| Rate group | Country | 3-letter exchange office code | Exchange office |
|------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 4 | Afghanistan | KBL | Kabul. |
| 1 | Albania | TIA | Tirana. |
| 4 | Algeria | ALG | Algiers. |
| 1 | Andorra ¹ | | |
| 4 | Angola | LAD | Luanda. |
| 2 | Anguilla | AXA | The Valley. |
| 2 | Antigua and Barbuda | ANU | St. John's. |
| 2 | Argentina | BUE | Buenos Aires Avion. |
| 4 | Armenia | EVN | Yerevan. |
| 2 | Aruba | AUA | Oranjestad. |
| 1 | Ascension ¹ | | |
| 3 | Australia ² | SYD | Sydney. |
| 1 | Austria | VIE | 1150 Vienna Flug. |
| 4 | Azerbaijan | BAK | Baku. |
| 1 | Azores ¹ | | |
| 2 | Bahamas | NAS | Nassau. |
| 4 | Bahrain | BAH | Bahrain. |
| 4 | Bangladesh | DAC | Dhaka 17. |
| 2 | Barbados | BGI | Bridgetown. |
| 1 | Belarus | MOW | Moscow PCI-1. |
| 1 | Belgium | BRU | Brussels X. |
| 2 | Belize | BZE | Belize City. |
| 4 | Benin | COO | Cotonou. |
| 2 | Bermuda | BDA | Hamilton. |
| 4 | Bhutan ¹ | | |
| 2 | Bolivia | LPB | La Paz |
| 2 | Bonaire ^{1 3} | | |
| 1 | Bosnia-Herzegovina | SJJ | Sarajevo. |
| 4 | Botswana | GBE | Gaborone. |
| 2 | Brazil | RIO | Rio de Janeiro. |
| 2 | British Virgin Islands | EIS | Roadtown Tortola |
| 3 | Brunei Darussalam | BWN | Bandar Seri Begawan. |
| 1 | Bulgaria | SOF | Sofia. |
| 4 | Burkina Faso | OUA | Ouagadougou. |
| 4 | Burma (Myanmar) | RGN | Rangoon. |
| 4 | Burundi | BJM | Bujumbura. |
| 3 | Cambodia | PNH | Phnom Penh. |
| 4 | Cameroon | DLA | Douala. |
| 4 | Cape Verde | SID | SAL. |
| 2 | Cayman Islands | GCM | Grand Cayman. |
| 4 | Central African Republic | BGF | Bangui. |
| 4 | Chad | NDJ | N'Djamena. |
| 2 | Chile | SCL | Santiago. |
| 3 | China | PEK | Beijing. |
| 2 | Colombia | BOG | Bogota Aeropuerto. |
| 4 | Comoros Islands ¹ | | |
| 4 | Congo, Dem. Rep. of the | FIH | Kinshasa CTT. |
| 4 | Congo, Rep. of the (Brazzaville) | BZV | Brazzaville. |
| 4 | Corsica ¹ | | |
| 2 | Costa Rica | SJO | San Jose. |
| 4 | Côte d'Ivoire | ABJ | Abidjan. |
| 1 | Croatia | ZAG | Zagreb. |
| 2 | Cuba | HAV | Havana. |
| | Curacao ³ | CUR | Willemstad. |
| 4 | Cyprus | NIC | Nicosia. |
| 1 | Czech Republic | PRG | Prague 120. |
| 1 | Denmark | CPH | Copenhagen PTM. |

EXHIBIT 284.522—FOREIGN EXCHANGE OFFICE AND COUNTRY RATE GROUPS, INFORMATION FOR DIRECT COUNTRY PACKAGE LABEL (FACING SLIP), TAG 178, 3-LETTER COUNTRY EXCHANGE OFFICE CODE, AND EXCHANGE OFFICE—Continued

| Rate group | Country | 3-letter exchange office code | Exchange office |
|------------|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 4 | Djibouti | JIB | Djibouti. |
| 2 | Dominica | DOM | Roseau. |
| 2 | Dominican Republic | SDQ | Santo Domingo. |
| 2 | Ecuador | UIO | Quito. |
| 4 | Egypt | CAI | Cairo Int'l Airport. |
| 2 | El Salvador | SAL | San Salvador. |
| 4 | Equatorial Guinea | BSG | Bata. |
| 4 | Eritrea | ASM | Asmara. |
| 1 | Estonia | TLL | Tallinn. |
| 4 | Ethiopia | ADD | Addis Ababa. |
| 2 | Falkland Islands ¹ | | |
| 1 | Faroe Islands ¹ | | |
| 3 | Fiji | NAN | Nadi. |
| 1 | Finland | HEL | Helsinki. |
| 1 | France | PAR | Paris Aviation Passe. |
| 2 | French Guiana | CAY | Cayenne. |
| 3 | French Polynesia | PPT | Papeete. |
| 4 | Gabon | LBV | Libreville. |
| 4 | Gambia | BJL | Banjul. |
| 4 | Georgia, Republic of | TBS | Tbilisi. |
| 1 | Germany | FRA | Frankfurt am Main. Flughafen. |
| 4 | Ghana | ACC | Accra. |
| 1 | Gibraltar | GIB | Gibraltar. |
| 1 | Great Britain | | |
| | London City | LON | Londontown. |
| | Northern Ireland | BFS | Belfast. |
| | Scotland | GLA | Glasgow. |
| | All Other | | |
| | Great Britain | LON | Great Britain. |
| 1 | Greece | ATH | Athens. |
| 1 | Greenland ¹ | | |
| 2 | Grenada | GND | St. George's. |
| 2 | Guadeloupe | PTP | Pointe-a-Pitre. |
| 2 | Guatemala | GUA | Guatemala. |
| 4 | Guinea | CKY | Conakry. |
| 4 | Guinea-Bissau | BXO | Bissau. |
| 2 | Guyana | GEO | Georgetown. |
| 2 | Haiti | PAP | Port-au-Prince. |
| 2 | Honduras | TGU | Tegucigalpa. |
| 3 | Hong Kong | HKG | Victoria. |
| 1 | Hungary | BUD | Budapest 72 Trans. |
| 1 | Iceland | REK | Reykjavik. |
| 4 | India | DEL | Delhi Air. |
| 3 | Indonesia | JKT | Jakarta Soekarno-Hatta. |
| 4 | Iran | THR | Tehran. |
| 4 | Iraq | BGW | Baghdad. |
| 1 | Ireland | DUB | Dublin. |
| 4 | Israel | TLV | Tel Aviv-Yafo. |
| 1 | Italy | ROM | Rome Ferr. |
| 2 | Jamaica | KIN | Kingston. |
| 3 | Japan | TYO | Tokyo APT FWD. |
| 4 | Jordan | AMM | Amman. |
| 4 | Kazakhstan | ALA | Alma Ata. |
| 4 | Kenya | NBO | Nairobi. |
| 3 | Kiribati | TRW | Tarawa. |
| 3 | Korea, Dem. People's Rep. (North) ¹ | | |
| 3 | Korea, Republic of (South) | SEL | Seoul. |
| 4 | Kuwait | KWI | Kuwait. |
| 1 | Kyrgyzstan | MOW | Moscow PCI-1. |
| 3 | Laos | VTE | Vientiane. |
| 1 | Latvia | RIX | Riga. |
| 4 | Lebanon | BEY | Beirut. |
| 4 | Lesotho | MSU | Maseru. |
| 4 | Liberia | MLW | Monrovia. |
| 4 | Libya | TIP | Tripoli. |
| 1 | Liechtenstein ¹ | | |
| 1 | Lithuania | VNO | Vilnius. |

EXHIBIT 284.522—FOREIGN EXCHANGE OFFICE AND COUNTRY RATE GROUPS, INFORMATION FOR DIRECT COUNTRY PACKAGE LABEL (FACING SLIP), TAG 178, 3-LETTER COUNTRY EXCHANGE OFFICE CODE, AND EXCHANGE OFFICE—Continued

| Rate group | Country | 3-letter exchange office code | Exchange office |
|------------|--|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Luxembourg | LUX | Luxembourg Ville. |
| 3 | Macao | HKG | Macau. |
| 1 | Macedonia | BEG | Belgrade. |
| 4 | Madagascar | TNR | Antananarivo. |
| 1 | Madeira Islands | FNC | Funchal. |
| 4 | Malawi | BLZ | Limbe C.S.O. |
| 3 | Malaysia | KUL | Kuala Lumpur. |
| 4 | Maldives | MLE | Male. |
| 4 | Mali | BKO | Bamako. |
| 4 | Malta | VLT | Valletta. |
| 2 | Martinique | FDF | Fort de France. |
| 4 | Mauritania | NKC | Nouakchott. |
| 4 | Mauritius | MRU | Mauritius. |
| 2 | Mexico See Exhibit 284.523 | | |
| 4 | Moldova | KIV | Kishinev. |
| 1 | Monaco | MCM | Monte Carlo. |
| 3 | Mongolia ¹ | | |
| 2 | Montserrat | MNI | Plymouth. |
| 4 | Morocco | CAS | Casablanca P/PAL. |
| 4 | Mozambique | MPM | CPI Maputo. |
| 4 | Namibia | WDH | Windhoek. |
| 3 | Nauru | INU | Nauru. |
| 3 | Nepal | KTM | Kathmandu. |
| 1 | Netherlands | AMS | Amsterdam EXP. |
| 2 | Netherlands Antilles ^{1 3} | | |
| 3 | New Caledonia | NOU | Noumea. |
| 3 | New Zealand | AKL | Auckland. |
| 2 | Nicaragua | MGA | Managua. |
| 4 | Niger | NIM | Niamey. |
| 4 | Nigeria | LOS | Lagos. |
| 1 | Norway | OSL | Oslo Transit. |
| 4 | Oman | MCT | Muscat. |
| 4 | Pakistan | KHI | Karachi. |
| 2 | Panama | PTY | Panama City. |
| 3 | Papua New Guinea | POM | Port Moresby. |
| 2 | Paraguay | ASU | Asuncion. |
| 2 | Peru | LIM | Lima Transito. |
| 3 | Philippines | MNL | Manila. |
| 3 | Pitcairn Island ¹ | | |
| 1 | Poland | WAW | Warsaw. ³ |
| 1 | Portugal | LIS | Lisbon Province. |
| 4 | Qatar | DOH | Doha. |
| 4 | Reunion | RUN | St. Denis. |
| 1 | Romania | BUH | Bucharest. |
| 1 | Russia | MOV | Moscow PCI-1. |
| 4 | Rwanda | KGL | Kigali. |
| 2 | Saba ^{1 3} | | |
| 2 | Saint Christopher and Nevis | SKB | Basseterre. |
| 2 | Saint Eustatius ^{1 3} | | |
| 4 | Saint Helena ¹ | | |
| 2 | Saint Lucia | SLU | Castries. |
| 2 | Saint Maarten ³ | SXM | Philipsburg. |
| 2 | Saint Pierre and Miquelon ¹ | | |
| 2 | Saint Vincent and The Grenadines | SVD | Kingstown. |
| 1 | San Marino ¹ | | |
| 1 | Sao Tome and Principe ¹ | | |
| 4 | Saudi Arabia | DHA | Dhahran APT. |
| 4 | Senegal | DKR | Dakar Yoff. |
| 1 | Serbia-Montenegro (Yugoslavia) | BEG | Belgrade. |
| 4 | Seychelles | SEZ | Mahe Is. |
| 4 | Sierra Leone | FNA | Freetown. |
| 3 | Singapore | SIN | Singapore. |
| 1 | Slovak Republic (Slovakia) | BTS | Bratislava. |
| 1 | Slovenia | LJU | Ljubljana. |
| 3 | Solomon Islands | HIR | Honiara. |
| 4 | Somalia | MGQ | Mogadishu. |
| 4 | South Africa | JNB | Johannesburg. |
| 1 | Spain | MAD | Madrid Airport. |

EXHIBIT 284.522—FOREIGN EXCHANGE OFFICE AND COUNTRY RATE GROUPS, INFORMATION FOR DIRECT COUNTRY PACKAGE LABEL (FACING SLIP), TAG 178, 3-LETTER COUNTRY EXCHANGE OFFICE CODE, AND EXCHANGE OFFICE—Continued

| Rate group | Country | 3-letter exchange office code | Exchange office |
|------------|--|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 4 | Sri Lanka | CMB | Colombo. |
| 4 | Sudan | KRT | Khartoum. |
| 2 | Suriname | PBM | Paramaribo. |
| 4 | Swaziland | MTS | Manzini. |
| 1 | Sweden | STO | Stockholm Flug. |
| 1 | Switzerland | GVA | Geneva 1. |
| 4 | Syria | DAM | Damascus. |
| 3 | Taiwan | TPE | Taipei. |
| 4 | Tajikistan | MOW | Moscow PCI-1. |
| 4 | Tanzania | DAR | Dar es Salaam. |
| 3 | Thailand | BKK | Bangkok. |
| 4 | Togo | LFW | Lome. |
| 3 | Tonga | NUK | Nukualofa. |
| 2 | Trinidad and Tobago | POS | Port of Spain. |
| 4 | Tristan da Cunha ¹ | | |
| 4 | Tunisia | TUN | Tunis. |
| 1 | Turkey | IST | Istanbul Hava Alani. |
| 1 | Turkmenistan | MOW | Moscow PCI-1. |
| 2 | Turks and Caicos Islands | TKI | Grand Turk. |
| 3 | Tuvalu ¹ | | |
| 4 | Uganda | KLA | Kampala |
| 4 | Ukraine | IEV | Kiev. |
| 4 | United Arab Emirates | DXB | Dubai. |
| 2 | Uruguay | MVD | Montevideo. |
| 4 | Uzbekistan | TAS | Tashkent. |
| 3 | Vanuatu | VLI | Port Vila. |
| 4 | Vatican City | VCY | Vatican City State. |
| 2 | Venezuela | CCS | Caracas. |
| 3 | Vietnam | SGN | Ho Chi Minh Ville. |
| 3 | Wallis and Futuna Islands ¹ | | |
| 3 | Western Samoa | APW | Apia. |
| 4 | Yemen | SAH | Sanaa. |
| 4 | Zambia | NLA | Ndola. |
| 4 | Zimbabwe | HRE | Harare. |

Footnotes

¹ Direct country sacks are not made to these destinations. Prepare direct country packages (ten or more pieces) and include in mixed direct country package sacks labeled to the assigned U.S. exchange office listed in Exhibit 284.622.

² At the mailer's option, a finer sortation for IPA items addressed to Australia may be used. If this option is chosen, items addressed with postal codes beginning with 0, 1, 2, 4, and 9 and uncoded mail should be sorted and packaged to Sydney. Direct country sacks should be tagged to Sydney as well. Both the three-letter exchange office code, "SYD," and the country name, Australia, should be entered in the "TO" block of Tag 178. Items addressed with postal codes beginning with 3, 5, 6, 7, and 8 should be sorted and packaged to Melbourne. Direct country sacks should be tagged to Melbourne as well. Both the three-letter exchange office code, "MEL," and the country name, Australia, should be entered in the "TO" block of Tag 178.

³ Netherlands Antilles includes Bonaire, Curacao, Saba, St. Eustatius, and St. Maarten.

EXHIBIT 284.523—MEXICO

| State group | State name | State abbreviation | Package label (facing slip) line 1 | Tag 116 3-letter exchange office code |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | Aguascalientes | AGS | 20001 Aguascalientes AGS DIS | GDL. |
| | Colima | COL | 28001 Colima COL DIS | GDL. |
| | Guanajuato | GTO | 36501 Irapuato GTO DIS | GDL. |
| | Jalisco | JAL | CPA Occidente | GDL. |
| | | | Guadalajara DIS | GDL. |
| | Nayarit | NAY | 63001 Tepic NAY DIS | GDL. |
| | Zacatecas | ZAC | 98001 Zacatecas ZAC DIS | GDL. |
| | Remaining | CPA | Occidente Guadalajara DIS | GDL. |
| 2 | Campeche | CAM | 24001 Campeche CAM DIS | MID. |
| | Tabasco | TAB | 86001 Villahermosa TAB DIS | MID. |
| | Yucatan | YUC | 97001 Merida YUC DIS | MID. |
| | Remaining | | 97001 Merida YUC DIS | MID. |
| 3 | Coahuila | COAH | CPA Noreste Monterrey NL DIS | MTY. |
| | Nuevo Leon | NL | CPA Noreste Monterrey NL DIS | MTY. |
| | San Luis Potosi | SLP | 78001 San Luis Potosi SPL DIS | MTY. |
| | Tamulipas | TAM | 87001 DC Victoria TAM DIS | MTY. |

EXHIBIT 284.523—MEXICO—Continued

| State group | State name | State abbreviation | Package label (facing slip) line 1 | Tag 116 3-letter exchange office code |
|-------------|------------------------|--------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| 4 | Remaining | CPA | Noreste Monterrey NL DIS | MTY. |
| | Chiapas | CHIS | 29002 Tuxtla Gtz CHIS DIS | MEX. |
| | Hidalgo | HGO | 42001 Pachuca HGO DIS | MEX. |
| | Mexico | MEX | Mexico 506 DF DIS | MEX. |
| | Michoacan | MICH | 58001 Morelia MICH DIS | MEX. |
| | Morelos | MOR | 62001 Cuernavaca MOR DIS | MEX. |
| | Oaxaca | OAX | 68001 Oaxaca OAX DIS | MEX. |
| | Puebla | PUE | 72001 Puebla PUE DIS | MEX. |
| | Queretaro | QRO | 76001 Queretaro QRO DIS | MEX. |
| | Quintana Roo | QROO | 77001 Chetumal QROO DIS | MEX. |
| | Tlaxcala | TLAX | 90001 Tlaxcala TLAX DIS | MEX. |
| | Veracruz | VER | 91701 Veracruz VER DIS | MEX. |
| | Remaining Mexico | | 506 DF DIS | MEX. |
| 5 | Durango | DGO | 82001 Mazatlan SIN DIS | MZT. |
| | Sinaloa | SIN | 82001 Mazatlan SIN DIS | MZT. |
| | Remaining 82001 | SIN DIS | Mazatlan | MZT. |
| 6 | Distrito Federal | DF | Mexico 506 DF (Mexico City) | MEX. |
| 7 | Guerrero | GRO | 39301 Acapulco de Juarez GRO DIS | ACA. |
| 8 | Baja Calif Norte | BCN | 22001 Tijuana BCN DIS | N/A. |
| | Baja Calif Sur | BCS | 23001 La Paz BCS DIS | N/A. |
| | Chihuahua | CHIH | 32001 CD Juarez CHIH DIS | N/A. |
| | Sonora | SON | 84001 Nogales SON DIS | N/A. |

EXHIBIT 284.622—LABELING OF IPA MAIL TO USPS EXCHANGE OFFICES

| IPA acceptance office 3-digit ZIP code prefix | U.S. exchange office and routing code for line 1 |
|---|--|
| 004–005, 010–098, 100–199, 250–267 | AMC KENNEDY NY 003. |
| 200–249, 254, 268, 283–285, 400–418, 420–427, 476–477 | P&DC DULLES VA 201. |
| 270–282, 286–326, 344, 350–397, 399 | AMC ATLANTA GA 300. |
| 424, 430–459, 460–516, 520–528, 530–532, 534–535, 537–567, 570–588, 600–620, 622–631, 633–641, 644–658, 660–662, 664–681, 683–693, 739. | AMC O'HARE 606. |
| 700–708, 710–738, 740–799, 885 | ISC DALLAS TX 753. |
| 590–599, 821, 832–838, 970–986, 988–999 | AMC SEATTLE WA 980 |
| 850, 852–853, 855–857, 859–860, 863–865, 870–875, 877–884, 889–891, 900–908, 910–928, 930–936 | AMC LOS ANGELES CA 900. |
| 800–816, 820, 822–831, 840–847, 893–898, 937–966 | AMC SAN FRANCISCO CA 940. |
| 967–969 | P&DC HONOLULU 967. |

Stanley F. Mires,

Chief Counsel, Legislative.

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BILLING CODE 7710–12–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**40 CFR Part 300**

[FRL–6193–3]

National Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan; National Priorities List**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency.**ACTION:** Notice of intent to delete the Williams Pipe Line Disposal Pit Superfund Site from the National Priorities List: request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region VIII announces its intent to delete the Williams Pipe Line Disposal Pit Superfund Site (Site) from the National Priorities List (NPL) and requests public comment on this action. The NPL constitutes Appendix B of 40 CFR part 300 which is the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), which the EPA promulgated pursuant of Section 105 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, as amended, commonly referred to as Superfund. EPA and the state of South Dakota Department of Environment and Nature Resources (State) have determined all appropriate CERCLA response actions have been implemented and the Site poses no significant threat to public health and the environment. Therefore, no further response measures pursuant

to CERCLA are appropriate. This determination does not apply to ongoing non-CERCLA petroleum assessment and cleanup work conducted under State authorities.

DATES: Comments may be submitted to EPA on or before December 28, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to: Mr. Dennis R. Jaramillo, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VIII, Mail Code 8EPR–SR, 999 18th Street, Suite 500, Denver, Co 80202–2466, Telephone: (303) 312–6580.

Comprehensive information on this site is available through the EPA Region VIII public docket. Located at the EPA Region VIII, Superfund Records Center which are available for viewing from 8 AM to 4 PM, Monday through Friday excluding holidays. Requests for documents should be directed to the