

cards, as a form of payment; and (3) eliminating the need for remitters to separately complete the remittance advice form. Instead, they submit the remittance advice form through *Pay.gov* at the same time they make their payments. Thus, the proposed rule will allow more efficient collection and allocation of royalty fees. It will also harmonize payment regulations across services throughout the Office, which already mandate the use of *Pay.gov* for non-royalty electronic payments.⁴

The proposed rule does not alter the regulatory provisions allowing the Office to waive the requirement of payment by EFT. However, as the Office stated when it first required payment by EFT, waivers are “for those situations where there may be circumstances which make it virtually impossible for a remitter to use the electronic payment option or imposes a financial or other hardship.”⁵

To assist remitters unfamiliar with *Pay.gov*, the Office has created tutorials to guide remitters, which are posted on the Licensing Section’s website.⁶

List of Subjects in 37 CFR Part 201

Copyright, General provisions.

Proposed Regulations

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, the Copyright Office proposes amending 37 CFR part 201 as follows:

PART 201—GENERAL PROVISIONS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 201 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 17 U.S.C. 702.

■ 2. Amend § 201.11 by revising paragraphs (f)(1) and (h)(3)(iv) to read as follows:

§ 201.11 Satellite carrier statements of account covering statutory licenses for secondary transmissions.

* * * * *

(f) * * *

(1) All royalty fees shall be paid by electronic funds transfer using *Pay.gov*, and payment must be received in the designated bank by the filing deadline for the relevant accounting period. Satellite carriers must provide specific information as part of the EFT and as part of the remittance advice, as listed

⁴ See 37 CFR 201.6(a)(1); *Remitter Payment Options and Deposit Account Requirements*, 87 FR 59306 (Sept. 30, 2022) (final rule).

⁵ 71 FR at 45739.

⁶ United States Copyright Office, Circular 74, June 2022: *How to Make Statutory License Royalty EFT Payments Using Pay.gov*, <https://copyright.gov/circs/circ74.pdf>; United States Copyright Office, *Make Statutory License Royalty Payments Using Pay.gov*, <https://copyright.gov/licensing/eftpayment>.

in the instructions for *Pay.gov*, the Statement of Account form, and the Office’s website.

* * * * *
(h) * * *
(3) * * *

(iv)(A) All requests filed under this paragraph (h) must be accompanied by a filing fee in the amount prescribed in § 201.3(e) of this part for each Statement of Account involved. Payment of this fee must be by EFT using *Pay.gov*. No request will be processed until the appropriate filing fees are received.

(B) All requests that a supplemental royalty fee payment be received for deposit under this paragraph (h) must be accompanied by a remittance in the full amount of such fee. Payment of the supplemental royalty fee must be by EFT using *Pay.gov*. No such request will be processed until an acceptable remittance in the full amount of the supplemental royalty fee has been received.

* * * * *
■ 3. Amend § 201.17 by revising paragraphs (k)(1) and (l)(4)(iv)(A) and (B) to read as follows:

§ 201.17 Statements of Account covering compulsory licenses for secondary transmissions by cable systems.

* * * * *
(k) * * *

(1) All royalty fees must be paid by electronic funds transfer (EFT) using *Pay.gov*, and must be received in the designated bank by the filing deadline for the relevant accounting period. Cable systems must provide specific information as part of the EFT and as part of the remittance advice, as listed in the instructions for *Pay.gov*, the Statement of Account form and on the Office’s website.

* * * * *
(l) * * *
(4) * * *

(iv)(A) All requests filed under this paragraph (l) must be accompanied by a filing fee in the amount prescribed in § 201.3(e) of this part for each Statement of Account involved. Payment of this fee must be made by an electronic payment using *Pay.gov*. No request will be processed until the appropriate filing fees are received; and

(B) All requests that a supplemental royalty fee payment be received for deposit under this paragraph (l) must be accompanied by a remittance in the full amount of such fee. Payment of the supplemental royalty fee must be by an electronic payment using *Pay.gov*. No such request will be processed until an acceptable remittance in the full amount

of the supplemental royalty fee has been received.

* * * * *
■ 4. Amend § 201.28 by revising paragraphs (h)(1) and (j)(3)(v) to read as follows:

§ 201.28 Statements of Account for digital audio recording devices or media.

* * * * *
(h) * * *

(1) All royalty fees must be paid by electronic funds transfer (EFT) using *Pay.gov*, and must be received in the designated bank by the filing deadline for the relevant accounting period. Remitters must provide specific information as part of the EFT and as part of the remittance advice, as listed in the instructions for *Pay.gov*, the Statement of Account form, and the Office’s website.

* * * * *
(j) * * *
(3) * * *

(v)(A) The request must be accompanied by a filing fee in the amount prescribed in § 201.3(e) for each Statement of Account involved. Payment of this fee must be by EFT using *Pay.gov*. No request will be processed until the appropriate filing fees are received.

(B) Requests that a supplemental royalty fee payment be deposited must be accompanied by a remittance in the full amount of such fee. Payment of the supplemental royalty fee must be by electronic payment using *Pay.gov*. No such request will be processed until an acceptable remittance in the full amount of the supplemental royalty fee has been received.

* * * * *

Dated: December 5, 2024.

Suzy Wilson,

General Counsel and Associate Register of Copyrights.

[FR Doc. 2024-29119 Filed 12-11-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 1410-30-P

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

39 CFR Part 3041

[Docket Nos. RM2025-5 and K2025-491; Order No. 8239]

Streamlined Negotiated Service Agreement Review and New Postal Product

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notification of filing.

SUMMARY: The Commission is acknowledging a recent Postal Service filing requesting the Commission

initiate a rulemaking to conduct advance review of a financial model, minimum rates, and Mail Classification Schedule changes to facilitate streamlined review of eligible negotiated service agreements, and a related request to add a new non-published rates negotiated service agreement product to the Competitive product list. This document invites public comment on the advance review portion of the Postal Service's filing and takes other administrative steps.

DATES: *Comments are due: December 12, 2024.*

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system at <https://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. Postal Service Request
- III. Notice and Comment
- IV. Ordering Paragraphs

I. Introduction

On November 22, 2024, the Postal Service filed a petition pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.205.¹ Rulemakings conducted under that section concern advance review of proposed financial models, minimum rates, and *Mail Classification Schedule* (MCS) changes to permit streamlined review of non-published rates (NPR) products and standardized distinct products (SDPs). 39 CFR 3041.205(a). Included with the Request, the Postal Service proposed to add a new NPR NSA product to the Competitive product list pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.320. See Request at 1.

II. Postal Service Request

Background. The Commission adopted rules for streamlined option rulemakings in Docket No. RM2023-5 to “address elements of 39 U.S.C. 3642 review and 39 U.S.C. 3633 pre-implementation review that are broadly applicable to qualifying [negotiated service agreements (NSAs)] and not particular to individual qualifying

NSAs.”² Specifically, such proceedings are used to establish eligibility criteria specifying the ways in which qualifying NSAs will be permitted to vary from existing offerings, to review a proposed financial model for qualifying NSAs that accounts for the financial impact of any such variations, and to establish minimum rates for qualifying NSAs. Order No. 7353 at 4.

After a financial model, minimum rates, and MCS language are approved in a streamlined option rulemaking, NPR NSA products and SDP NSAs that conform to the approved MCS language, use the approved financial model, and comply with the approved minimum rates can be added to the Competitive product list. See 39 CFR 3041.320(c); 39 CFR 3041.325(c). Requests to add conforming NPR NSA products to the Competitive product list are reviewed in public proceedings, and, if approved, one or more included contracts using the same contract template may be subsequently added to the product without requiring further approval from the Commission. See 39 CFR 3041.320. Requests to add conforming SDP NSAs to the Competitive product list are reviewed by the Commission in summary proceedings. 39 CFR 3041.325(c).

Request. The Postal Service proposes MCS language, a financial model, and minimum rates for “Mid-Market—Non-Published Rates” contracts. See Request at 1. The Postal Service states that such contracts will provide discounted rates for “existing end-to-end competitive products, Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail, and USPS Ground Advantage® on the same basis as, and without any material changes made to, the publicly available versions of those products.” *Id.* at 2.

The proposed financial model uses the “archetype approach” wherein cost coverage is demonstrated for the national volume distribution and each of 10 distinct volume distributions (archetypes). See *id.* at 3. When the archetype approach was first proposed, the Postal Service stated that it would assign each customer to an archetype based on a questionnaire.³ The Postal Service further stated that, within each

archetype, volume is distributed across cubic tiers and flat rate products consistent with national distribution data. See Order No. 7334 at 7 (citing Docket Nos. MC2024-384 and CP2024-392, Response to CHIR No. 1, question 3). The Postal Service explained that it would not use the archetype approach for customers with unique circumstances or preferences that make the archetype approach inappropriate.⁴

The proposed addition of a new NPR NSA product to the Competitive product list includes contract templates based on numerous recent Postal Service NSA filings. Request at 3. The proposed contract templates differ primarily based on how volume is calculated for purposes of the tiered pricing mechanism, with two templates apiece that rely on annual, quarterly, and rolling four-quarter volume. See *id.* at 4, 4 nn.11–12.

III. Notice and Comment

The Commission establishes Docket Nos. RM2025-5 and K2025-491 for consideration of matters raised by the Request. More information on the Request may be accessed via the Commission's website at <http://www.prc.gov>. Interested persons may submit comments regarding the proposed financial model, minimum rates, and MCS changes filed pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.205 no later than December 12, 2024. Should the Commission authorize the financial model, minimum rates, and MCS language for use pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.205(f), the Commission will separately request public comment regarding whether the Postal Service's request to add the Mid-Market—Non-Published Rates product to the Competitive product list conforms to the then-authorized version of the financial model, minimum rates, and MCS language and otherwise satisfies the requirements of 39 CFR 3041.320(g).

Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Christopher Mohr is designated as an officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in these proceedings.

IV. Ordering Paragraphs

It is ordered:

1. The Commission establishes Docket Nos. RM2025-5 and K2025-491 for consideration of the matters raised by the USPS Request to Establish New Mid-Market—Non-Published Rates

¹ USPS Request to Establish New Mid-Market—Non-Published Rates Product (MMNPR) and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal, November 22, 2024 (Request).

² See Order No. 7334 at 8 (citing Docket Nos. MC2024-384 and CP2024-392, USPS Response to Chairman's Information Request No. 1, with Portions Filed Under Seal, July 16, 2024, question 3 (Docket Nos. MC2024-384 and CP2024-392, Response to CHIR No. 1)).

³ See Order No. 7334 at 7 (citing Docket Nos. MC2024-384 and CP2024-392, Response to Chairman's Information Request No. 2, with Portions Filed Under Seal, July 29, 2024, question 2).

Product (MMNPR) and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal, filed November 22, 2024.

2. Comments by interested persons concerning the financial model, minimum rates, and *Mail Classification Schedule* changes proposed pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.205 are due no later than December 12, 2024.

3. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, the Commission appoints Christopher Mohr to serve as an officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in these dockets.

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

By the Commission.

Erica A. Barker,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024-29090 Filed 12-11-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-FW-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 80

[EPA-HQ-OAR-2024-0411; FRL-12015-01-OAR]

RIN 2060-AW46

Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) Program: Partial Waiver of 2024 Cellulosic Biofuel Volume Requirement and Extension of 2024 Compliance Deadline

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to partially waive the 2024 cellulosic biofuel volume requirement and revise the

associated percentage standard under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) program due to a shortfall in cellulosic biofuel production. As a result of this proposed change, this action also proposes to extend the RFS compliance reporting deadline for the 2024 compliance year. This action also proposes several minor revisions related to the biogas provisions of the RFS program.

DATES:

Comments: Comments must be received on or before January 21, 2025.

Public hearing: EPA will hold a virtual public hearing on December 20, 2024. Please refer to the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for additional information on the public hearing.

ADDRESSES:

Comments. Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2024-0411, at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from the docket. EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit to EPA's docket at <https://www.regulations.gov> any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.*, on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). Please visit <https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa>

dockets for additional submission methods; the full EPA public comment policy; information about CBI or multimedia submissions; and general guidance on making effective comments.

Public hearing. The virtual public hearing will be held on December 20, 2024. The hearing will begin at 9 a.m. eastern standard time (EST) and end when all parties who wish to speak have had an opportunity to do so. All hearing attendees (including even those who do not intend to provide testimony) should register for the virtual public hearing by December 13, 2024. Information on how to register can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/renewable-fuel-standard-program/proposed-partial-waiver-2024-cellulosic-biofuel-volume-requirement>. Additional information regarding the hearing appears below under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions regarding this action, contact Dallas Burkholder, Office of Transportation and Air Quality, Compliance Division, Environmental Protection Agency, 2000 Traverwood Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48105; telephone number: (734) 214-4776; email address: RFS-Rulemakings@epa.gov. For questions regarding the public hearing, contact Nick Parsons at RFS-Hearing@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Does this action apply to me?

Entities potentially affected by this action are those involved with the production, distribution, and sale of transportation fuels (*e.g.*, gasoline and diesel fuel) and renewable fuels (*e.g.*, ethanol, biodiesel, renewable diesel, and biogas). Potentially affected categories include:

Category	NAICS ¹ code	Examples of potentially affected entities
Industry	211130	Natural gas liquids extraction and fractionation.
Industry	221210	Natural gas production and distribution.
Industry	324110	Petroleum refineries (including importers).
Industry	325120	Biogases, industrial (<i>i.e.</i> , compressed, liquified, solid), manufacturing.
Industry	325193	Ethyl alcohol manufacturing.
Industry	325199	Other basic organic chemical manufacturing.
Industry	424690	Chemical and allied products merchant wholesalers.
Industry	424710	Petroleum bulk stations and terminals.
Industry	424720	Petroleum and petroleum products wholesalers.
Industry	457210	Fuel dealers.
Industry	562212	Landfills.

¹ North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

This table is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities potentially affected by this action. This table lists the types of entities that EPA is now

aware could potentially be affected by this action. Other types of entities not listed in the table could also be affected. To determine whether your entity would be affected by this action, you

should carefully examine the applicability criteria in 40 CFR part 80. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person