

February 5, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue NW Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

Attention: Richard Oliver-Docket PI 2010-1

Dear Richard Oliver,

Please find enclosed letters from several businesses and individuals who are concerned about the closing of the Prairie City South Dakota Post Office. The letters address the hardships that our community faces without our Post Office.

We are requesting that the closing of the Prairie City Post Office be reviewed and reopened, if at all possible.

Thank you in advance for your time in reviewing this issue. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Lois Eggebo, Spokesperson  
12347 Divide Road  
Prairie City, SD 57649  
[leggebo@sdplainswb.com](mailto:leggebo@sdplainswb.com)  
605-866-4844 Work  
605-244-5982 Home

January 27, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Richard Oliver-Docket PI 2010-1  
901 New York Avenue NW Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

Dear Richard,

I am writing you this letter in hopes it will help reopen the Prairie City Post Office. A person doesn't know how much you depend upon a little Post Office in a rural community until it isn't there.

As a single parent with an active 7 year old son, it has been greatly missed. With a young child going to school and just being a normal, they always seem to need medicine. We live about 50 miles away from the nearest drugstore. With the Prairie City Post Office closed, we do not receive our medicine in the mail the next day. It takes at least 2 or 3 days for it to arrive. So, you either have to wait or make a special trip to the drugstore, which takes time off of work, gas expense, and extra mileage.

People in larger communities do not know how much we in a rural community depend on a little old Post Office.

Thanks for taking the time to read my letter.

Sincerely,

*Penny J Nelson*

January 27, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue NW Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

Attention: Richard Oliver-Docket PI 2010-1

Dear Mr. Oliver:

I live in Bison, SD, which is a town east of Prairie City, SD. I work for a rural electric and rural telephone cooperative. We send a lot of mail to the Prairie City area within our billing and marketing departments. This is a very rural area with miles of distance between towns and farms. As a concerned citizen, I would really hate to see the Prairie City Post Office shut down, as it is a great asset to that community and the surrounding areas like us here in Bison. I would urge you to review and take all things into consideration before making a decision on the Prairie City Post Office.

Thank you.

Gladys Jackson, Customer Service Supervisor  
Grand Electric Cooperative & West River Telephone

**HARDING & PERKINS  
FARM MUTUAL**

PO BOX 334, PRAIRIE CITY, SD 57649  
(605) 866-4844



January 29, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue NW Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

I am writing this letter on behalf our business, Harding & Perkins Farm Mutual Insurance Company, located in Prairie City, South Dakota. We are requesting that the closing of our Post Office be reconsidered, due to the impact on our business as well as the whole community.

We were informed by letter that our Post Office was going to be closed on November 27, 2009. A meeting was held on December 1, 2009 at the Wesleyan Church in Prairie City, which was the same day that they closed our Post Office. There were over 50 patrons of the Prairie City Post Office who voiced their questions and concerns at the closing of the Post Office. The information given by Cindy Lipp, MPOO, from Rapid City, SD was that there is basically no hope of reopening our Post Office. She said that our postal carriers could provide all the services we were receiving from the post office. As good as our mail carriers are, they cannot take the place of our post office.

As manager of Harding & Perkins Farm Mutual, it is especially upsetting to us. Mail is the way we do our business from receiving the application, processing and mailing policies, receiving payments and making deposits, to processing and paying for claims. Having a secure way to send and receive mail is very important.

Purchasing stamps locally is now more difficult as we have to order them and send payment through the mail. When payment is received, they send our postage to us through the mail. This process now takes several days. I realize we can order postage online but that does not benefit our local post offices. We want to support these small post offices, if we can, to prevent them from being closed as Prairie City was. We also mail large envelopes as well as packages and it is much more difficult to mail them without our Post Office.

We now have temporary cluster boxes and we have until February 1, 2010 to put up a mailbox of our choice. Several of us have purchased and installed new mailboxes to meet the deadline. Harding & Perkins purchased a locking mailbox to make our mail as secure as possible. However, the outgoing mail placed in our box cannot be locked and therefore is not secure. In addition, this new mailbox has also been found with standing water in the bottom after some of these snowstorms, which is not very acceptable for us as a business.

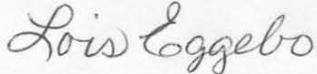
We still have the drop box located at the old post office site but we were told at the December 1 meeting that it will be removed in a year or so (when they redo the routes). So we will lose the security we have for outgoing mail with no alternative to secure it.

Our mail is now being sorted out of another Post Office. This Postmaster is expected to handle the extra mail without any additional help. This Postmaster is supposed to sort mail, take incoming mail, sell postage, weigh packages, and all the other duties required of them simultaneously. It is my understanding that this Postmaster has taken it upon themselves to have extra help come in for a few hours a day. Because the Post Office has not allowed for any additional help, this may be coming out of that Postmaster's salary. If that is indeed the case, that is not fair to the Postmaster or anyone receiving mail from that Post Office. One person can only be expected to do so much.

Is there any way that our Post Office can be reopened? I don't feel that closing our Post Office the same day as the meeting about the closing is sufficient notice. It left us without any options prior to the closing. This caught us unaware and I wonder which Post Office will be next. We have already lost Post Offices in Lodgepole, Shadehill, Glad Valley, Mud Butte, and Zeona, South Dakota. In northwestern South Dakota there are many miles between towns. Having removed this many Post Offices from our part of South Dakota makes those distances even greater. We really need our Post Office. We appreciate your attention to this and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

HARDING & PERKINS FARM MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lois Eggebo".

Lois Eggebo, Manager

Jesse and Mary Lee Marty  
15300 Marty Rd  
Prairie City SD 57649

January 26, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission  
Att: Richard Oliver  
Docket PI 2010-1

Ref: Closing of US Gov. Prairie City, SD Post Office

**To Whom It May Concern:**

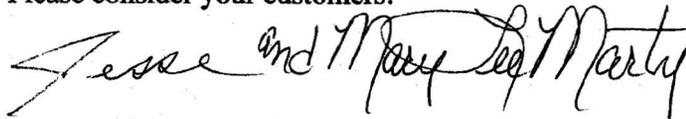
My husband and I live on a ranch approximately 27 miles from our local Post Office located in a rural area South of Prairie City, SD. We were informed by letter of the closing of this post office on December 1, 2009. Due to this closing, we are supposed to drive 17 miles further to the Bison, SD US Gov. Post Office for our mail business.

This is a hardship for everyone in this rural community, but especially our family, as my husband has MS and can not drive. Have you ever had to mail a package and drive 45 miles one way to the closest Post Office in inclement weather? Or driven 45 miles to a post office after receiving notice of a certified letter, register mail, etc.

I am sure, due to the present condition of the building the Post Office was in, that another area would be needed for the location of the Post Office in Prairie City, but there are many reasonable alternatives for this problem other than closing the Post Office permanently.

Please consider what you are doing to the customers of the Postal Service before you make a determination to close a Post Office. At present time, we receive our mail only 3 days a week, Monday, Wednesday and Friday. We have to try and catch the person that delivers the mail to our post office box, which is 4 miles away to pick up a package or sign for our mail, now. They have continued to close our local Post Offices in rural communities ( ie: Zeona, Mud Butte, etc.) in our area, causing more and more hardships on their customers and then question why people are turning to alternatives for their businesses other than US Mail. This is a clear picture to us...

Please consider your customers!



Jesse and Mary Lee Marty

January 27, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

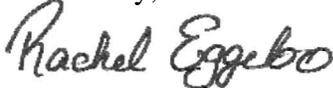
Attention: Richard Oliver – Docket PI 2010-1

I am requesting you reconsider the closure of the Post Office in Prairie City, South Dakota. The closure of this Post Office has been devastating to my husband and me. We receive our medications through the mail, and now with the Prairie City Post Office closed, we don't get them for several days. I normally order my prescriptions from White Drug in Hettinger, North Dakota. This pharmacy is the closest to me, and the mail has always gotten my prescriptions to me on time (usually within 24 hours) because of the Post Office in Prairie City. Recently, I needed medication for an illness; however, because of the closure of the Post Office in Prairie City, the pharmacy informed me that it would take at least 2 days for me to receive my medication. In this case, I could not wait. I ended up driving 70 miles to Hettinger, ND to get them on time.

This does not only affect the Prairie City area. It affects those individuals and businesses in the surrounding areas. Such a business as White Drug in Hettinger, ND could lose business because medications are not delivered on time. I don't live close to Prairie City; however, the closure of this Post Office has directly affected me and my family.

Please reconsider the closing of the Prairie City Post Office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rachel Eggebo". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Rachel Eggebo  
14465 Chance Rd.  
Bison, SD 57620  
605-788-2876

January 27, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue NW Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

Attention: Richard Oliver-Docket PI 2010

Dear Mr. Oliver

I am writing this letter to inform your postal administration of my concerns for your recent decision to close the Prairie City, SD (57648) Post Office.

This recent closure has already placed undue hardship on the businesses and families living within the Prairie City area. My family as the owners and operators of Sodak Angus Inc. relied daily upon the past services of the Prairie City post office for postal supplies as well as client mailings. Now we have to wait an additional day or two for these services to be forwarded from Bison, SD. Often we would receive postal services from Prairie City while reroute to other destinations however, presently this method of service requires an additional 36 miles of transportation which is cost prohibited to my business.

In the late 1980s the postal service closed the Sorum, SD Post Office which was located within a quarter mile of our business. That closure became the extinction of the town of Sorum of which my grandparents were both instrumental in the initial founding. Although my family roots were emotionally connected to the Sorum closure; the most significant aspect of the pre closure meeting was that we were promised same day services from the Prairie City Post Office which presently has been terminated also.

Rural America has been depicted as the bread basket of our nation and its efficiencies are directly responsible for the cheap and abundant American food policy which is the envy the world over. With the closure of our small town facilities we loose farm and town jobs which drive up production costs as well as destroying our family heritages. Rural America is one of our last American industries to produce a raw product which not only feeds us but is exportable and is therefore a positive factor in the United States' balance of trade. USDA studies have proven that every dollar of revenue earned in rural America generates 7 dollars for our urban neighbors and businesses.

In conclusion I hope you will reconsider the closure of our Prairie City Post Office and the livelihoods of the families which are dependent upon it. Your decision to maintain a postal facility in Prairie City would be a noble decision directly related to insuring the future nutritional and economic benefits for all Americans.

Respectively,

Vaughn Meyer  
Sodak Angus Inc.

William Jr. and Shirley Maxine Marty  
15293 Marty Rd  
Prairie City SD 57649

January 26, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission  
Att: Richard Oliver  
Docket PI 2010-1

Ref: Closing of the US Gov Post Office in Prairie City SD

To Whom It May Concern:

Our ranch is over 100 years old. I, myself have lived here for 84 years and my wife and I have been married for 65 years, raising our family and living at this same address. Over the years everything modernizes and becomes easier for us in our every day life, except our mail service. You would expect our mail service to improve, not deteriorate.

Our mail box is 4 miles from our residence, and the Prairie City Post Office is 27 miles, north. On December 1, 2009, we received a letter announcing that they are closing the Prairie City Post Office and we now have to do our mail business extending 14 miles further East of Prairie City at Bison, SD. The reason they gave us was the building was not safe for the occupancy of the post office. We can understand this, but can not understand why the renovation of the building or the renting of another building couldn't be utilized. When a building on our ranch has deteriorated we don't move 14 miles further down the road, we repair it or utilize another building near the same location.

We are disappointed in the US Postal Service in the hardships they are causing their customers over the years. At our age, it is unsafe to have to drive 41 miles to the nearest post office for our mail business.. We feel that closing Post Offices in rural communities are not the answers to your problems and cause hardships for your customers..

Please reconsider closing the Prairie City Post Office,

*W<sup>m</sup> Marty - J.  
Shirley Maxine Marty*

William Jr and Shirley Maxine Marty



# West River Cooperative Telephone Co.

801 Coleman Ave.

P.O. Box 39

Bison, SD 57620

January 27, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

Attention: Richard Oliver – Docket PI 2010-1

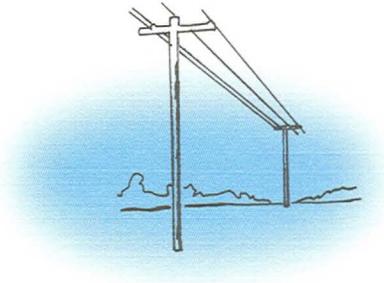
West River Cooperative Telephone Company encourages the Commission to reconsider the closing of the United States Post Office in Prairie City, South Dakota. This facility provides a vital service for a large geographic area. Closing this Post Office will put undue hardships on the residents in these communities and will affect the timely delivery of medications, monthly bills and commerce in the area. West River Cooperative Telephone Company depends on the rural Post Offices for timely delivery of bills, statements and checks, and the residents need the facility to insure that payments are delivered when due.

Again, please reconsider the closing of such a valuable asset to the Prairie City and surrounding communities.

Sincerely,

Jerry Reisenauer  
General Manager

JR:re



# Grand Electric Cooperative, Inc.

801 Coleman Ave. P. O. Box 39 Bison, SD 57620

January 27, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

Attention: Richard Oliver – Docket PI 2010-1

Grand Electric Cooperative, Inc. encourages the Commission to reconsider the closing of the United States Post Office in Prairie City, South Dakota. This facility provides a vital service for a large geographic area. Closing this Post Office will put undue hardships on the residents in these communities and will affect the timely delivery of medications, monthly bills and commerce in the area. Grand Electric depends on the rural Post Offices for timely delivery of bills, statements and checks, and the residents need the facility to insure that payments are delivered when due.

Again, please reconsider the closing of such a valuable asset to the Prairie City and surrounding communities.

Sincerely,

Jerry Reisenauer  
General Manager

JR:re



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# WEST RIVER HEALTH SERVICES

JANUARY 31, 2010

RE: DOCKET P1 2010-1  
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Oliver:

I am writing in regard to the recent closure of the Post Office in Prairie City, South Dakota.

Prairie City is a small town in rural South Dakota, but it provides service to a large geographical area to people who are very dependent upon timely mail for some medical services.

In particular, I am referring to the necessity of being able to mail pharmaceuticals to these people when they need their medicine refilled. Until closure of this Post Office, it was possible to get prescription medicines to Prairie City and these individuals within a day using regular mail service and now, with the closure of the Post Office, it is 2-3 days before people can receive their medication. This is more than just a pure postal issue; it is a matter of necessity and sometimes a life-threatening necessity, to get medicine to a family.

This is an example of unintended consequences that has major impact on the quality of life, as well as safety issues, from a decision that was probably made in a very reasonable way, in terms of raw economics of the postal service. However, in this situation, in the extreme rural area we are talking about, the consequences are more far-reaching, than is apparent on the surface.

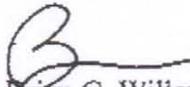
Richard Oliver  
Page 2

RE: CLOSURE OF POST OFFICE

I thcrefore request that you reinstate this post office to continue a very critical medical outcach to people who otherwise would not have that.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,



Brian G. Willoughby, MD

BGW/1lb

Dear Richard Oliver Docket 2010-1

It is a time e money Issue not having  
a Post office in Prairie City to take care of our  
Company Business etc. Also Security Issues with our drop  
Boxes. Please consider Re opening ours  
Thanks For Considering this

Laurence K CARR  
KARBELT INC  
A/SU  
Keith L CARR Co Inc  
Prairie City SD  
57449

February 2, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue NW Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

Attention: Richard Oliver-Docket PI 2010-1

I recently learned of the closing of the Post Office in Prairie City, SD. I would like to request that you reconsider this action. I have a three-fold reason for this request of which I have listed below.

1. I am the business manager of the Bison school in Perkins County which is 18 miles from Prairie City which is in our district. Our school district is one of the largest in the state of SD and covers many square miles. Many of our patrons, students and staff travel great distances to attend our school district. Keeping in touch with them via mailings, notices, patron letters is very important and needs to be done in a timely matter. I also send out information to our board members (of which one is a resident of Prairie City) of upcoming meetings, elections, etc. We feel it is very important to be able to contact these patrons as quickly and efficiently as possible.

2. I am also the Chairman of the Bison Commercial Club which is a civic minded organization to promote small businesses and to try to acquire new services. In the past five years, we were fortunate enough to be able to secure through private donations and funding, a new satellite clinic and hire a Physician's Assistant. This has been a wonderful asset to our small town and we are hoping to bring in more new businesses. This also helped to employ new staff.

3. This brings me to a more personal matter to me. I have been a transplant recipient and therefore require many clinic tests, which the above clinic has been able to administer to me, saving me thousands of miles each year. Being immunosuppressed means more illness, more infections. While it is extremely important to have the health services in town, it is equally important that they are able to write prescriptions. However, with the nearest pharmacy nearly 45 miles (one way) mailing prescriptions is our best option. Receiving prescriptions within 24 hours can be crucial to someone such as myself. I use, for example, this week. I was diagnosed on Monday with an infection; however by the time the prescription is called in and mailed to me, it will be (if I'm fortunate) Wednesday before I receive my prescription in the mail. The closing of the Prairie City office has delayed the delivery of my drugs by up to 48 hours. While I understand that we have chosen to live in a rural community and that I have eliminated conveniences for myself, this is my home. So, I would ask again, that you please reconsider reopening the Post Office and providing that community with quality postal service.

Thank you for your attention.

Bonnie Crow  
P O Box 5  
Bison, SD. 57620

January 31, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue NW Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

Attention: Richard Oliver – Docket PI 2010-1

I am a pharmacist in a small rural community in southwestern North Dakota.

Our medical community extends in a fifty mile radius of our town.

Our rural clinics and hospital employ eleven doctors, midlevels, and other supportive medical personnel. We operate satellite clinics and provide quality medical care to people living in six other rural communities.

To provide services to these communities I must rely on the United States Postal Service for distribution of prescription medication. Closing the Prairie City, SD Post Office has resulted in a delivery time of two days to my patients.

President Obama sent a message to America when he stated in his State of the Union Address: “Small towns in rural America have been hit hard by a downturn in our economy.”, “Small business is where we need growth.”, “We must build an infrastructure to compete.”

Quality medical care in rural areas requires an infrastructure for delivery. Taking two days to deliver medication to my patients that live fifteen miles from my pharmacy is not an infrastructure that assists me in the delivery of quality of medical care.

I do not pretend to know the solution to this problem but I am willing to do my part, with the cooperation of the Postal Service, to provide the people in rural areas the same quality of medical care that their neighbors in other communities in America receive.

Thank you for your attention.

Gary W. Dewhirst, RPh  
Pharmacy Manager  
White Drug  
PO Box 750  
Hettinger, ND 58639

January 29, 2010

Richard Oliver – Docket PI 2010-1  
Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue NW Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

RE: Closing of Prairie City, SD post office

Dear Mr. Oliver:

I am writing to you in regards to the closing of the Prairie City, SD, post office. I understand that government looks at how they can help the most people with the least amount of dollars; but sometimes, that concept must be re-evaluated for rural areas.

Prairie City is a small “town,” but serves a larger community base. Although Bison, SD, lies 17 miles to the east and Reva, SD, lies 12 miles to the west; the Prairie City post office also serves people to the south and north, of which the closest towns are approximately 40 to 70 miles.

The Prairie City post office served as more than a “post office” for this community. It gave area residents a sense of community and belonging – a place where they could gather for coffee to share concerns, discuss community needs and check on their neighbor.

The closing of this post office also brings other concerns, of which the most important, is security. All invoicing and income receipts for my business are sent through the U.S. postal system. Now letters with money enclosed are no longer delivered to a secure postal building but are simply placed in a box along a well-traveled highway. The majority of my endorsed checks for deposit are also exposed to many travelers in this manner since it is 17 miles, one way, to the nearest bank.

With the closing of the Prairie City post office, the closest U.S. postal building is, again, 17 miles away. It now requires a special trip to ship or receive a package when it is too large for the rural mailbox. As you can imagine, my office hours are not 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for my dirtmoving business, making it an inconvenience to pick up equipment parts. The majority of the parts are shipped through USPS since United Parcel Services’ nearest receiving point is now 75 miles away.

Not only do I have a security and availability concern; I also question delivery competency. The first day the Prairie City post office was closed, I ordered \$100 worth of postage from the Bison, SD, post office; which is 17 miles away. I did not receive the postage the next day as was

promised due to the fact the \$100.00 order was lost until the following day. Also, there was the day the mail carrier misplaced the key for the back of the cluster box. On that day I was the only one to receive mail in a timely manner and that was simply because I happen to be dropping mail in the drop box when he was there – no one else received their mail that day.

The final issue is the fact the mail carrier is routed back to Hettinger, ND, and not Bison, SD – causing our mail to be delayed in delivery to our vendors as it has to go to Bismarck, ND before it begins to make its way back to South Dakota. This is inexcusable!

No one discussed other options with the residents of Prairie City prior to removing the postal services from the community. We would ask for the simple courtesy of looking for other options – sometimes it is amazing what people will discover about themselves, or their community, when given the opportunity.

Sincerely,

# Todd J. Fink

Todd J. Fink  
Fink Dirtmoving  
12888 N. Prairie City Rd.  
Prairie City, SD 57649

February 1, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue, NW Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

Attention: Richard Oliver-Docket PI 2010-1

I heard recently that you have made the decision to close the Prairie City Post Office in South Dakota. I understand the desires of the Post Office to be more cost efficient and cost effective but I must ask you to reconsider this action.

Even though the population affected by your change is small, the effect of such change is most significant. The Post Office of the community of Prairie City serves as the mechanism for residents of an area that is over 200 square miles to receive supplies and medications. It already is more than an overnight process to get medications to patients of this area and the elimination of the Prairie City Post Office will cause an addition 1 to 2 day delay for residents of this area.

For our rural areas, even from the one from which I am writing, the option of "Overnight Mail" isn't an option. The guarantee of overnight delivery means only to urban centers, not to rural areas such as Prairie City.

Please reconsider your decision.

Sincerely,

James K. Long, CEO  
West River Health Services  
1000 Highway 12  
Hettinger, ND 58639

January 28, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission  
Att: Richard Oliver  
Docket PI 2010-1

Dear Sir;

We are writing in regard to the closing of our rural Post Office at Prairie City, South Dakota on Dec. 1, 2009. Until then we were pleased with the US Postal Service. We received a letter in the mail two days prior to the closing, and on Dec. 1st the postal representative from Rapid City, S.D. held a meeting in Prairie City to inform the patrons that the P.O. was closing that afternoon, and immediately the post office boxes and all P.O. furnishings were removed from the building where postoffice has been situated for many years.

We live 20 miles from Prairie City, and receive mail three times a week on Mon, Wed. and Fri., on a rural carrier route. Our mailbox is four miles from our residence.

Since the closing of Prairie City P.O. the carrier has to travel 18 miles to Bison, S.D. to pick up all mail to deliver on the 60 plus mile route she drives and return to Bison with pick up mail. For us, it is 18 more miles (total 38) to Bison to mail or pick up packages, or any special

letter service (i.e. registered/insured etc), and to pick up packages too large for our mailbox. With the mailbox being 4 miles from the residence, and depending on Weather and road conditions, it is very inconvenient to meet the rural carrier.

We also order medications through the mail, and not having a P.O. at Prairie City causes more inconvenience.

Patrons are asking for a mobile unit or small building to be established at Prairie City, S. D. for a Post Office.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,  
Ruby & Herman  
VanDernBerg  
16692 Antelope Rd  
Prairie City, S.D. 57649

January 26, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commissioner  
Attention: Richard Oliver  
Re: Docket P1 2010-1

Dear Mr. Oliver;

I am from the Prairie City, SD area and we have lost our Post Office to my dismay.

The closest available Postal Office is 45 miles away in Bison. This is way too far to drive to mail or pick up a package. I understand that our "delivery" service will not be affected as of now, but this does not show me that you have considered the distance for other postage services. Packages that are sent to my Prairie City address will be sent to Bison. And if they aren't deliverable, for whatever reason, we will have to travel 45 miles to pick up our mail. That is not acceptable.

I believe that this decision was made in haste and to save money on the Governments part. There are many alternatives to a "post office" and having one 45 miles away should not have been considered one.

I would like this case to be reopened and reconsider the alternatives for keeping our Post Office in Prairie City.

Thank you for your time and understanding the importance of this issue. I appreciate what you can do for us.

Looking forward to hearing about further consideration/discussion on this subject.

Sincerely,



Sam Marty  
15320 Marty Road  
Prairie City, SD 57649

January 26, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commissioner  
Attention: Richard Oliver  
Re: Docket P1 2010-1

Dear Mr. Oliver;

We are from the Prairie City, SD area and we have lost our Post Office to our dismay.

The closest available Postal Office is 45 miles away in Bison. This is way too far to drive to mail or pick up a package. We understand that our "delivery" service will not be affected as of now but this does not show us that you have considered the distance for other postage services. Packages that are sent to our Prairie City address will be sent to Bison. And if they aren't deliverable, for whatever reason, we will have to travel 45 miles to pick up our mail. That is not acceptable.

We believe that this decision was made in haste and to save money on the Governments part. There are many alternatives to a "post office" and having one 45 miles away should not have been considered one.

We would like this case to be reopened and reconsider the alternatives for keeping our Post Office in Prairie City.

Thank you for your time and understanding the importance of this issue. We appreciate what you can do for us.

Looking forward to hearing about further consideration/discussion on this subject.

Sincerely,



Steve & Sue Tolton  
15295 Marty Road  
Prairie City, SD 57649

2-2-2010

Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

Attn: Richard Oliver  
Docket PI 2010-1

I am writing in my capacity of Vice President of Harding and Perkins Farm Mutual Insurance Company and as an independent agent doing business with Harding and Perkins Farm Mutual. The company is located in Prairie City, SD where recently the Post Office has been closed.

I would like to voice my objection to the closing of the Prairie City Post Office and ask for reconsideration of that decision hoping that the office could be re-opened.

One consideration should be based on the larger than normal mail pieces per day for a small rural post office created by the business operation of the company and the need for the secure handling of mail both incoming and outgoing due to the fact that thousands of dollars of checks are coming and going through the business on a daily basis. In this time of identity theft nationwide, security is a major issue even in the rural areas of South Dakota. In addition a large volume of insurance policies with quite personal information is mailed on a daily basis also. Having a secure process to operate our mail is a high priority for this company.

Other considerations could be the ability to provide postage on a reliable basis, weather related situations that could damage our mail and the increased work load on the rural carriers.

I was not real impressed with the time line that was given as to the notice of cancelling the office and the lack of time for public input.

I do hope that you will have the issue looked at and reconsideration be given to re-opening this Post Office that was an integral part of our business program.

Thanks You.

Jim Hodgson  
Insurance Agent  
Dacotah Insurance Lemmon  
P.O. Box 359  
Lemmon, SD 57638

Phone: 605-374-3852  
Fax: 605-374-5998  
[www.jim.hodgson@dacotahbank.com](http://www.jim.hodgson@dacotahbank.com)

February 2, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue, NW Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001  
Attention: Richard Oliver Docket PI 2010-1

I am writing this letter in regard to the closing of the Prairie City South Dakota Post Office.

First - they had the meeting to tell us why they were closing it the day that it closed - pretty short notice. Also they had the meeting in the middle of the morning when several people who were working could not attend the meeting.

Second - it is a real inconvenience to the residents of Prairie City and also to the ones who live on farms and ranches. Some of those people lived 20-25 miles from Prairie City and now they have another 18 miles to go to the post office in Bison. There is also no way to secure outgoing mail and that will affect the businesses in Prairie City.

Third - it takes two or more days longer to get medicine. It is a real hardship for those that depended on getting medicine the day they ordered it. This is not the carriers fault either. They are doing the best job they can.

Fourth - I don't feel that we were given a chance to come up with an option. We were shocked to find out about the closing by mail only a few days before they actually closed it, and in that time there was a major holiday so the community could not even discuss it.

Prairie City Resident  
Beverly Joy Worm  
PO Box 916 OR NOW - 502 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Prairie City, SD 57849

*Beverly Joy Worm*

February 3, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268-0001

Attention: Richard Oliver – Docket PI 2010-1

I am requesting the closing of the Post Office in Prairie City, South Dakota, is reconsidered.

My husband and I get medications from White Drug in Hettinger, ND. Charles is on medication for his heart. White Drug is the closest pharmacy and now that the Prairie City Post Office is closed, he gets it a day late. He needs his medication everyday. They will not release it earlier than the day it is due.

When the Post Office was open – we got it the next day. Now we have to drive 90 miles to and from Hettinger to get his meds on time.

Please reconsider the closing of the Prairie City Post Office.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tamara Kilcoyne".

Tamara Kilcoyne

February 3, 2010

To: Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Ave NW. Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268

Attn: Richard Oliver – Docket PI 2010-1

From: Kevin Weishaar

Re: Closure of Prairie City Post Office

Dear Sir,

I was disheartened to see another facility in our small community close but at first did not really see how it would effect me as we still have a post office where I live.

I was very wrong in my assumption. I am a disabled vetran and very dependant on medications for day to day maintainance. I had seen our local doctor and he prescribed a medication that he had to send in a order to the closest pharmacy (in Hettinger, ND). Before when the Prairie City post office was open this process of sending in the order and getting the medication was a 2 day turn around, one day for the order to be mailed and another day for the medication to get to me. I had no idea that the closing of this small post office would have required the mail route to be changed to the level that this 2 day process ended up taking 11 working days to complete. Needless to say rather than having what I needed I suffered for nearly 2 weeks. I kept checking my mail box and after 4 days I started to ask questions of different people, my doctor and finally our local post mistress who explained the mail routes were changed.

By closing the Prairie City Post Office it created a hardship for myself and others that I feel is unjustified and very easily could have created serious physical harm.

I would like to request that the Prairie City Post Office be reopened, if needed communicate with the community if there are any needs that need to be met as we are a community they does all we can to help each other in a time of need.

Thank You for Your Time



Kevin Weishaar  
PO Box 7  
Bison, SD 57620



3 February 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission  
Attn: Richard Oliver – Docket PI2010-1  
901 New York Avenue N.W. Suite 200  
Washington, D.C. 20268-0001

To Whom It May Concern:

The closure of the Prairie City post office in Prairie City, SD is not only a loss to the community, but hinders the effectiveness of the delivery of medications to my patients in the area. There are very few pharmacies in Western South Dakota. Nearly all the residence in the area receive their prescriptions by mail. After a patient visits my clinic, their medications are mailed to them from one of the regional pharmacies. Until the Prairie City post office was closed, most people received their medications the very next day. Now there are times when the mail takes nearly four days to get to the patients.

Please consider re-opening this post office in rural South Dakota.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel J. Kvale". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Daniel J. Kvale, MS PA-C  
Bison Community Clinic

