

February 10, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Ave NW Suite 200
Washington DC 20268
ATTN: Richard Oliver-Docket # PI 1010-1

Dear Postal Regulatory Commission,

The Harmony, California, Post Office, 93435, was established in 1914 and serves the whole of the Harmony Valley not just the small town of Harmony. The very rural Harmony Valley extending from Cayucos to Cambria is Ranch and Dairy country. The Post Office was housed in the historic Harmony Creamery owned by the Calyork Development Corporation, 315 West Ninth Street Suite 323, Los Angeles, CA 90015, phone (213) 624-4700 EXT 102.

In response to a letter dated January 31, 2005 from Mr. Ron Borkgren, Real Estate Specialist, U. S. Postal Service, Pacific Facilities Service Office, 395 Oyster Point BLVD Suite 225, South San Francisco, CA 94080-0300 Mr. James Mehdizadeh, Chief Executive Officer, Calyork Group Inc. had Doyle- Morgan Structural Engineering, 1900 State Street Suite K, Santa Barbara, CA 93101 study the condition of the Creamery. Doyle-Morgan's report not only provided an overview of the structural deficiencies, but described how best to achieve upgrading the structure where necessary. Mr. Mehdizadeh submitted a copy of this report to the Postal Service for their approval of the planned structural changes. Mr. Mehdizadeh has also offered to make any changes the Postal Service deems needed to reinstate the Post Office. He did request that the Postal Service send him in writing the required changes and a statement of intent to rent if the changes were made. The landlord stated he would reduce the monthly rent if needed to get the historic Harmony back for the community of Harmony.

On March 11, 2008 representatives from the U.S.P.S. Sierra Costal District, Manager Customer Services Operations, California Chapter NAPUS and the California Chapter of the League of Postmasters visited the Harmony Post Office. They were acting as a joint team evaluating the safety of continuing to operate the Post Office in the Creamery. The committee concurred that the building was unsafe to occupy until needed fixes were made. On April 4, 2008 the Harmony Post Office was placed in Emergency Suspension. The justification for this Suspension is the building has an "out of plane roof wall connection".

The Postal Service installed a Roadside Cluster Box Unit serviced by a Rural Route from Cambria, Ca, 93426, a Level 18 Office. Harmony will continue to use 93435 as its ZIP Code.

On April 19, 2009 Mr. Mehdizadeh contacted Ms. Lauren Yamakido of the U.S.P.S. Contracting Office in South San Francisco, CA that an extensive study of the Creamery had been conducted by Lampmam and Smith Structural Engineering Corp. That the study had included core drilling of the concrete walls. That Lampmam and Smith's plan would meeting the requirements of the 2007 California Building Code. Mr. Mehdizadeh stated "I am now prepared to go forward with making the necessary amendments". "Should I submit to you a project schedule? Please advice". Mr. Mehdizadeh is still awaiting a reply.

The lack of a Post Office in Harmony has caused a real hardship on the local merchants their employees. They no longer can send and receive accountable mail locally, as well as other Postal Retail Services, but must make time in their schedule to travel to Cambria or Cayucos. An example is our local Glassblower who regularly uses visiting artist who stay in town for several weeks at a time. Their mail is a constant problem. When the Rural Career gets a strange name the letter ends up in my box. I try an sort this unexpected mail out and get it to the addressee, but I'm not a Postal Employee just a concerned citizen! Mean while the creamer shops have gone vacant while the landlord waits for word from the Postal Service on renovating the Historic Creamery building. Worst of all as our town and businesses are fading away and the Postal Service just keeps us waiting as they study the situation.

Sincerely,

Aarika Wells
P O Box 57
2186 Old Creamery RD.
Harmony, CA 93435
Phone (805) 927-0750
E-Mail harmony_wells@sbcglobal.net