

April 2, 2010

Postal Regulatory Commission
Attn: Ruth Goldway, Chairman
901 New York Ave. NW, Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20268

Regarding: Docket A2010-4

Dear Ms. Goldway,

As you may be aware we have been in disagreement with the USPS for its decisions and general handling of the closure of our local Post Office in Crescent Lake Oregon. While we do not totally understand Federal Regulations in this regard we have found ourselves in an awkward position of being told of requirements and regulations that we have trusted to be true. This has proven to be misleading and we believe dishonestly represented. Last month early USPS commitments have been referenced as being from personnel no longer involved or lacking authority to represent decisions for our Post Office. At this late stage these self serving comments are frustrating and not acceptable.

We have faced serious operations failures that placed our Fire District in a position of lost or misdirected mail. On occasions this resulted in us pushing critical deadlines or necessary coordination with required County, State and or Federal agencies. Our personnel found funds of \$19,000 after weeks having been misdirected. Where these appear to be recoverable or worked around it does not change the impact on a very small staff. Our USPS continues to tell us to call or refer issues to the local postal station. This does not solve the problems created by when and where our mail is sorted or what records have been changed over several years by the USPS yellow label address correction method. All of these incidents impact our operations negatively.

We have attempted for sometime to convince the USPS that sending mail for two similar locations, such as a fire district, to the same zip code was a problem. Answer; we just don't understand!!!! On occasions we refuel with electronic media. When the input does not agree the result is no fuel in an emergency response vehicle. These potentials and conditions are unacceptable and the direct result of the USPS actions independent of closure of our Post Office. When an old box number constituting 2 digits and not the 4 digits implemented by the USPS is used within the same zip code we find them delayed and returned. These have resulted in late payment notices, threatened delays and various

schedules unattended and unmet. Where we train to gain seconds to make a difference in an emergency these inefficiencies are seemingly regarded as not worthy of consideration.

We have never attempted to obstruct an orderly change that would see us lose a very old and historic mail service. We have been misled and ignored on what appears to be simple solutions to what we see as mail sorting functions with our own community identity and zip code. We believe we are now impacted by the attitude of the USPS that it is their decision to be made without any outside influence while hiding behind their measure of required regulations, efficiency or management.

We readily concede that there may be more efficient ways to handle mail. Indeed, we have witnessed the loss of our staffed Crescent Lake Post Office with many other intervening and negative changes. We as a fire district, like many residents, believed it would all work better in the end. That has not proven true. Our emergency services organization should not be put into a position of indifference from the very organization we have worked hard to help implement a more orderly change.

We petition the PRC at its earliest opportunity to revisit the decision on how our postal office was closed and take corrective action to insure this community can maintain its identity and a unique zip code with minimal disruption to public services. These changes are neither inefficient nor unattainable. We further request that the PRC inform us of any hearings, notices or actions in this Docket as they proceed.

With sincere appreciation,

R.R. Carlson, Secretary
Central Cascades Fire & EMS
Board of Directors

Cc. File