



July 25, 2011

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

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POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Subject: Formal appeal to the Final Determination to close the East Camden Branch Post Office – Docket Number 1438579-71701.

Dear Sirs:

This letter should be considered a formal appeal to the Final Determination to close the East Camden Arkansas Post Office, as stated in Docket Number referenced above.

The decision to close the East Camden, Arkansas Branch Post Office (referenced above), as explained in the Final Determination document, is flawed in a number of ways and apparently based on both erroneous and missing information.

- 1) East Camden is a community with its own local government, police force and fire department. It is not administered by the City of Camden, and not protected by the Camden police and fire departments, as stated in the document.
- 2) The Camden post office is approximately 8 miles away from the East Camden Branch PO and not 4 miles away, as stated in the document. One can shorten that difference to approx. 6.5 miles by taking the "old" road into Camden, which includes 3 miles of raised, 2-lane highway over the Ouachita River bottoms with 4 long, narrow bridges and little or no shoulders. I live in Camden and work for a company located in the Highland Industrial Park and drive through East Camden at least twice every workday. I prefer to avoid using the old road whenever possible, even though it is a shorter route, due to the availability of a safer, though somewhat longer 4-lane route to and from Camden.
- 3) The "Economic Savings", item IV in the document, states that the Postal Service will save the labor cost of the current PO manager and/or clerk, along with the associated fringe benefits. It fails, however, to include the offset cost for the additional carriers, as replacements for the post office, and the cost of vehicles for the carriers. The logic that says replacement carriers and required vehicles to cover the almost 50 square miles encompassing the Highland Industrial Park near East Camden would be an annual cost of \$0 is flawed to say the least. What contract carrier is going to work for free and use his own vehicle at no charge? The true cost of the replacement carriers would be a significant cost offset to the Postal Service's proposed cost savings, if it had been included.
- 4) The "Economic Savings" in item IV also states an annual lease cost savings of \$9,420. Is the building under a long-term lease? If so, the cost of breaking the lease should be determined and considered in year one of the change.
- 5) In item III. "Effect on Employees", the document states the employees assigned to the East Camden facility will be relocated with the Postal Service. What is the estimated cost of that relocation package? That should be included as a year-one cost offset to the "Economic Savings". Also, if they are to be relocated with the Postal Service, there is **no net savings** of their pay and benefits to the Service.

Building 20 Highland Industrial Park, P.O. Box 3355
East Camden, Arkansas 71711
Phone 870.574.2555, FAX 870.574.2560



As I stated above, I work for a company located in the nearby Highland Industrial Park, and I send one of my office staff approx. 4.8 miles to the East Camden Post Office every workday to pick our daily mail, buy postage, send packages, and send/receive certified mail. There is no doubt that having a carrier drive to our business to deliver our mail would be a convenience, but I am skeptical a carrier can provide all the services we currently utilize at the East Camden PO. Will he/she also carry postal scales in their vehicle, and will the carrier take the time to act as a retail clerk at each customer's location?

Most importantly, I would like a more complete explanation with an accurate cost/benefit analysis to support the Postal Service's determination that it is less costly to the Service to hire and pay several rural carriers with the associated cost of vehicles for daily mail service, than it is to have all the area's customers drive into one central location (the East Camden PO), manned by no more than one employee at a time, to pick up mail and transact business. It is obvious that such an analysis has not been completed, if the Final Determination Document is the result.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Moll". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Andy" and the last name "Moll" clearly distinguishable.

Andy Moll
Manager, Finance and IT
Spectra Technologies, LLC
P.O. Box 3355
East Camden, AR 71711