

A 2011-93

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

RECEIVED

2011 SEP 27 P 4: 21

Received

SEP 26 2011

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

9/11/11

Office of PAGR

Dear Chairman,

The Postal Service has posted the Final Determination to close the Freedom, WY post office.

We do not think the alternate service offered by the Postal Service for the Freedom, WY Post Office, Freedom WY, 83120 is acceptable as it does not provide a maximum degree of regular and effective service to rural areas, communities and small towns where the post office is not self-sustaining.

It will be a major inconvenience for us to purchase stamps, money orders, send or receive registered mail, certified mail, and mail parcels. Also, many of our senior residents receive their medications through the mail. We are concerned that prescriptions left in mailboxes will be exposed to extreme weather conditions, including excessive heat, rain, and/or cold temperatures. We are also concerned about vandalism, theft, and even identity theft.

Our little post office represents the federal government to our residents and it is hard for us to understand the reasoning of the USPS. We understand the financial hardships the Postal Service is facing; however, it is still against the law to close a post office that is not financially self-sustaining. Closing post offices would cut about 7500 jobs. Rural America cannot afford to lose any more jobs in this fragile economy.

The financial report for the Freedom Post Office is not accurate. We now have the Silverstar Communications business, which brings in approximately \$3500 dollars per month.

Before closing small post offices why not try closing post offices on Saturdays which would save approximately \$80 billion dollars, and/or cutting down on hours. Small rural post offices are the keystone of many rural communities, and the fact is that closing post offices saves the Postal Service very little money. According to PRC data the total net cost of the 10,000 smallest Post Offices--more than one-third of all Post Offices in the United States--is less than seven tenths of one percent (0.7%) of the total cost of the United States Postal Service.

We are fearful the closure of the post office will mean the loss of our town's identity as we have heard that happened to friends and family in other small communities. A rural carrier can't provide the same services as our post office.

We would like to request a Grant of Labor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary Hokanson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Gary Hokanson

PO Box 251

Freedom, WY 83120

307-883-2876

Cell: 307-413-4763

bkhokanson@silverstar.com



Date of Posting: 08/29/2011

Date of Removal: 09/30/2011

FINAL DETERMINATION TO CLOSE
THE FREEDOM, WY POST OFFICE
AND ESTABLISH
SERVICE BY HIGHWAY CONTRACT ROUTE SERVICE

DOCKET NUMBER 1364103 - 83120