



**Pierce County**

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A2011-98

**RECEIVED**  
**Roger Bush, Chair**  
Councilmember, District 3  
2011 SEP 30 P 12:33

Received

SEP 28 2011

POSTAL REGULATORY  
COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

September 21, 2011

Office of PAGR

Postal Regulatory Commission  
Public Affairs and Government Relations  
New York Avenue NW, Ste. 200  
Washington, D.C. 20268-0001

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing on behalf of the residents of La Grande, Washington in response to your announced plans to close the U.S. Post Office located in that town. While I realize that the USPS faces many economic challenges, I would ask that you reconsider your plan to close the La Grande site.

The Post Office in La Grande has been in operation for over 100 years and remains a central part of the town's social structure. More than a central processing facility for the mail, the La Grande Post Office is an integral part of the fabric of this rural community, as evidenced by the response of the community to the threatened closure. The intangible benefits to the community (and to the USPS) cannot be measured on an accounting sheet, but customer loyalty is certainly a great value to any business.

La Grande citizens have been loyal to their Post Office, using its service even though other less costly services might be available to them. The loss of the local facility would change that dynamic. Area residents may not continue using the Postal Service because they would have to travel 20 miles to do so.

I understand that, in these times, business operators must innovate, consolidate, and reprioritize to remain viable. Nevertheless, I wish to express my hope that an innovative means of preserving historical postal facilities like the one in La Grande, Washington will be discovered and implemented. I wish you every success toward that end, and toward continuing the legacy of the U.S. Postal Service into many future generations.

Sincerely,

ROGER BUSH, Chair  
Pierce County Council