

Re: Docket No. A2011-80

Comments of Frank Haviland, 4 Whitewater Turn, Tariffville, CT 06081

I believe the USPS did not give sufficient consideration to the periodic isolation of the Village of Tariffville during flooding of the Farmington River during Spring runoff or severe rainstorms, especially the impact upon our elderly and/or handicapped citizens. Hurricanes, Tropical Storms and Nor'easters are regular occurrences in our area and the snowmelt floods the river every Spring.

Depending upon how high the river rises, the route to the alternate Post Office in Simsbury, CT 06070 is not 3.5 miles each way, as USPS claimed, but becomes 10 miles or, in more severe flooding (as on August 28-30, 2011), 18 miles each way as the roads to bridges across the river are flooded.

In addition, for those villagers who have maintenance medications delivered by USPS, the use of a PO Box is essential to protect the medications from the extreme temperatures of our rural mailboxes in Summer or Winter.

The burden to villagers, especially the elderly, handicapped and those on maintenance medications is much more severe than considered by USPS in proposing to close the Tariffville Post Office, 06081.

Since revenue exceeded expenses for the Tariffville Post Office, closing seems uneconomic as well.