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2011 OCT 25 A 3: 26

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Received

OCT 24 2011

Office of PAGR

October 18, 2011

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

RE: Appeal to proposed closing of Woodstock, Minnesota U.S. Post Office

Dear Sir/Madam:

A number of us community members want you to reconsider closing our post office in Woodstock, Minnesota and we are appealing your decision to do so.

We urge the U.S. Postal Service to place a moratorium on closings for at least two years. Governor Terry Branstad of Iowa, and Governor Earl Ray Tomblin of West Virginia are asking for a moratorium on all post office closings. The United States needs to give this decision more time and not rush to close our small town post offices, because once they are closed, they are probably closed forever. In addition, we are in a campaign year, and this is a hot topic, and we fear that the U.S. Senate and U.S. House may not act on this issue in the next year, so we should put it off until after the 2012 elections.

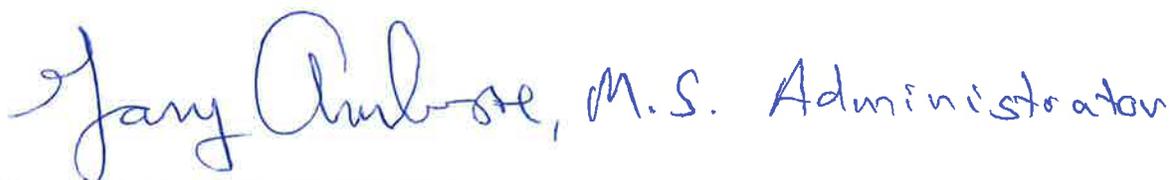
I think the small-town post office closings do more damage disproportionately than laying off staff in large cities, because we do not just lose employees through lay-offs, we lose the entire post office. Some communities get to keep their post office, but may lose some of the work force. It is easier for a community to lose some of the work force than to lose the entire post office. Losing a post office is a harsh loss to the small, rural community.

Has the U.S. Postal Service calculated what closing 3,700 post offices may do to their revenue? Doesn't this closure have the potential to decrease revenue for the U.S. Postal Service? Another argument is that what will be saved by closing the 3,700 post offices is "chicken feed" compared to where big dollars could be saved in other large areas. In

other words, “chicken feed” is a “small change” for the massive U.S. Postal Service, but it makes a “large change” for 3,700 communities and their hundreds of thousands of people.

We ask you in a pleading manner, to not close our post office in Woodstock, Minnesota. Please grant a two-year moratorium so that more ideas can be tried first to decrease your costs and increase your revenue.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Woodstock, Minnesota Community,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gary Ambrose, M.S. Administrator". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G".

Gary Ambrose, M.S., Administrator,
New Life Treatment Center
Woodstock, Minnesota