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To Whom It May Concern:

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Please take the time to reconsider your decision to close the South Valley Station, located at 811 S. Main Street in Yerington Nevada.

POSTAL REGULATORY  
COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

I am Lisa Smith the Postmaster of the Yerington Post Office. I have worked for the United States Postal Service for 19 years. I have worked my entire career at the Yerington Office, we as postal employees were fortunate in 2001 to get a new facility built, the main reason the new facility was built, was due to being in violation of OSHA safety requirements. This was a huge milestone for the safety and ease of access for the employees and customers. Yerington is a rural community; it is approximately 1-2 hours from any retail or grocery outlets. The community is mostly retired and elderly.

Just an insight of the Main Office located at 26 N. Main St., this facility was built in 1939, and it is a three story building. The main floor (workable space) is approximately 1000 square feet, included in this space is 856 post office boxes, two customer service windows. The North side of the building is where the handicap ramp is located; the ramp is in severe need of repair it is not easily accessible for the disabled. The main entrance there is approximately nine steps before entering. Neither entrance has electric doors this makes it extremely hard for the disabled and elderly to use this facility. The main parking for this facility is in the back of the building there are 17 spaces, this will leave no parking for customers, and they will be forced to park on Main Street. The Yerington office has four city routes, one rural route and three highway routes. On a daily basis we receive three drop shipments of parcels; this office will not accommodate the volume and space needed to work these parcels in a safe manner.

The South Valley Station is a one story facility; it has approximately 6000 square feet of workable space. It consists of 1200 post office boxes, two customer service windows which are separated from the main work room floor. It has two entrances which both have electric doors, it is handicap friendly. The elderly praise this facility for the ease of access. The parking areas are separated leaving ample parking out front for customers. Being involved in the building and setup process of this new facility I was well informed we were in twenty year lease. If we close this facility there is still 10 years left on the agreement, I don't believe there is a clause that releases us from not paying if we decide to close this facility.

You are showing a savings of approximately \$200,000.00 a year, I question these figures. Management wage will still remain the same, benefits will remain the same, and no employees are losing their jobs. The lease of \$96,000.00 will still be paid if the contract cannot be broke; therefore, the only savings I see are utilities. Something is not adding up. It sounds like we are sacrificing the safety of our employees and not providing the best service to our customers.

It is beyond me how one person Renee Brown –Acting Manager of Post Office Operations can come into my office for 30 minutes, look around and make the decision to close the South Valley Station. Yes there was a town meeting originally to close the Main Office which customers were against, then she (Renee Brown) decides to close the South Valley Station a town meeting was held and only three customers attended, I think they were confused on what facility was being discussed. I have received so much negative feedback from customers regarding the closure of the South Valley Station.

Please reconsider your decision.

Sincerely,

Lisa Smith