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APWU
MAR 21 2011
WESTERN REGION
COORDINATOR

To: () Pacific Area Local(s)
~~(X)~~ Western Area Local(s)
 () So. West Area Local(s)

March 18, 2011

Omar Gonzalez
 Western Regional Coordinator
 APWU, AFL-CIO
 1350 Old Bayshore Hwy. Suite 360
 Burlingame, CA 94010-1882

- Withholding Info
- Staffing Issue(s)
- Status Update
- Grievance Administration

- Please review, take action and reduce issues to writing
- Comments

Omar M. Gonzalez, Coordinator

Dear Mr. Gonzalez,

This letter is an informational notice of the intent of the U.S. Postal Service to conduct an Area Mail Processing (AMP) study of the mail processing at the Helena, MT, Customer Service Mail Processing Center for possible consolidation of operations into the Great Falls, MT, Customer Service Mail Processing Facility.

The U.S. Postal Service is facing one of the most difficult challenges in its history. The current economic downturn and continued Internet diversion has led to a drastic 20 percent decline in mail volume since 2007, resulting in historically large deficits. As a result, the Postal Service is not receiving enough revenue to sustain the cost of its processing and delivery network.


The fact is we have more equipment, personnel and facilities than we need to process a declining volume of mail. The Postal Service must realign its network to match its resources with mail volume. Consolidating some postal operations and placing our people where we need them makes logical business sense given the economic realities. It would be fiscally irresponsible not to do so.

This letter is solely intended to provide you with information that we plan to conduct the study. If the business case supports consolidation, a public meeting will be held to allow members of the community to ask questions and provide feedback. Community input will be considered before a decision is made as to whether or not the proposed consolidation should be implemented.

This letter is not intended as notice of future changes in mail processing and is not a notice of impact on employees. I will provide you with the appropriate notice, if any is required, when a decision is made.

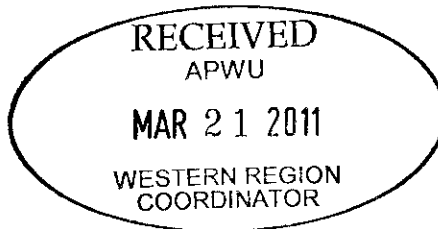
If you have any questions concerning this AMP feasibility study please contact Scott Sutton at 303-313-5449.

Sincerely,


 Chris A. Jordan
 Manager, Labor Relations
 Western Area

cc: Area Vice President
 HQ Vice President, Labor Relations

APWU



American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

1300 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005

Greg Bell
Executive Vice President

202-842-4250 (Office)
202-842-4297 (Fax)

March 21, 2011

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President

Greg Bell
Executive Vice President

Elizabeth "Liz" Powell
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Coordinator, Eastern Region

John H. Dirzius
Coordinator, Northeast Region

Princella Vogel
Coordinator, Southern Region

Omar M. Gonzalez
Coordinator, Western Region

To: Greg Bell
From: Greg Bell
Subject: USPS Intent to Conduct an AMP Study - Helena MT CSMPC into Great Falls MT P&DF (Notification No. GCCG20110134)

Please find attached a copy of a letter dated 3/18/2011 from John Dockins, regarding the above reference matter.

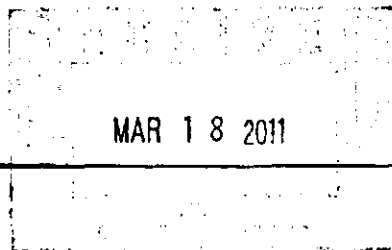
You are designated as the APWU contact person in this matter. Contact the USPS representative as soon as possible for discussion, if appropriate. Please provide notification of your review to me by 4/21/2011.

Please note: Your secretary should update the Notification Tracking Module in Step 4 CAS as necessary.

Attachment

GB/lbb
opelu #2/af-cio

LABOR RELATIONS



March 18, 2011

Mr. Cliff Guffey
President
American Postal Workers
Union (APWU), AFL-CIO
1300 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005-4128

Certified Mail Tracking Number:
7099 3400 0009 0614 9607

Fax: (202) 842-4297

Dear Cliff:

This letter is an informational notice of the Postal Service's intent to conduct an Area Mail Processing (AMP) feasibility study at the Helena, Montana Customer Service Mail Processing Center (CSMPC) for possible consolidation of some operations into the Great Falls, Montana Processing and Distribution Facility (P&DF).

An AMP study involves the review of mail processing and transportation operations at a postal facility. The reason for the study is to review mail volume and determine capacity needs in order to increase efficiency and improve productivity. In doing so, we will be able to continue to provide universal service at a reasonable cost for a long time to come.

The Postal Service is facing one of the most difficult challenges in its history. There has been a continual decline in single-piece, first-class mail volumes over the past decade. Volume was down by more than 6.2 billion pieces last year. The most recent projections predict volume will continue to decline for the next decade. The Postal Service has to realign its processing and delivery network to match its resources with mail volume. The reality is we have an excess of equipment, staff and facilities to process a declining volume of mail. Consolidating some postal operations only makes logical business sense given the economic realities. It would be fiscally irresponsible not to do so.

This letter is solely intended to provide you with information that we plan to conduct the study. If the business case supports consolidation, a public meeting will be held to allow members of the community to ask questions and provide feedback. Community input will be considered before a decision is made as to whether or not the proposed consolidation should be implemented. This letter is not intended as notice of future changes in mail processing and is not a notice of impact on employees. Appropriate notice will be given, if any is required, when a decision is made.

If you have any questions concerning this AMP feasibility study, please contact Barry Carpenter at (202) 268-6892.

Sincerely,

for John W. Dookins
Manager
Contract Administration (APWU)