Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

March 7, 2025

The Honorable Louis DeJoy Postmaster General United States Postal Service 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW Washington, DC 20260

Re: Postal Regulatory Commission Delivering for America Advisory Opinion

Dear Postmaster General DeJoy,

On January 31st, 2025, the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC), after months of careful examination and deliberation from a multitude of parties, published its advisory opinion on elements of the U.S. Postal Service's (USPS) Delivering for America (DFA) plan, including the restructuring of its existing processing and delivery network and the Regional Transportation Optimization (RTO) strategy and subsequent service standard alterations.

As you well know, the PRC concluded that the USPS's plan "depends on defective modeling and does not appear to be ready for implementation;" "relies on overly optimistic and unsubstantiated financial projections for cost savings that are not likely to improve the financial health of the Postal Service;" and, most disturbingly, "has significant negative impacts on rural communities throughout the U.S." The PRC's analysis further found that the USPS's flawed volume-based approach to measuring service degradation as opposed to more representative alternatives obscures the true cost these changes will have on rural communities. Measuring the impacts of these changes on Single-Piece First Class Mail, approximately 49.5% of ZIP Codes will receive degraded service.

In the case of Wyoming, which the PRC singled out in its opinion, the impacts these changes will have across our state are particularly destructive. Wyoming is in the unique situation of not having a Regional Processing and Distribution Center (RP&DC) under the new network, with mail processing split between Denver, CO; Billings, MT; Salt Lake City, UT; and Boise, ID, being fully subjected to the consequences of the RTO, and lacking next-day service. In one egregious example, mail sent from central Wyoming to an address in western Wyoming would be routed through four processing facilities in three different states.²

While we understand the USPS must evolve to keep up with changing markets, the PRC, the USPS Office of Inspector General, postal employees, multiple industry stakeholders, state and local officials, and Members of Congress have repeatedly raised heightened concerns about these elements of the DFA plan and what is in store for rural communities. To that effect, we strongly urge you to heed the warnings in the PRC's most recent advisory opinion. Lastly, while the recent development that Cheyenne and Casper will maintain certain local originating processing operations for their respective regions is welcomed, further action must be taken to ensure Wyoming is not left behind under these reforms.

¹ https://www.prc.gov/sites/default/files/N2024-1_PR-FINAL.pdf

² https://prc.arkcase.com/api/prc-dockets/filing/downloadFile?fileId=236113&inline=true

To that extent, and in light of the USPS's recently announced changes, we are requesting answers to the following questions by no later than April 1st, 2025.

- 1. Can you confirm that all outbound mail originating in Wyoming will continue to be transported via ground transportation to the respective out-of-state RP&DCs under the new network?
- 2. With Wyoming being uniquely split between four different RP&DCs across four states, as referenced in the PRC's advisory opinion, will mail originating in one RP&DC region and destined to a different RP&DC region within Wyoming have to leave the state for processing?
- 3. To what extent will the Cheyenne and Casper Processing and Distribution Centers retaining certain local originating processing operations under the new network effect the implementation of RTO in Wyoming?
 - a. Will communities within 50 miles of these enhanced facilities continue to maintain their afternoon/evening collections or will all of Wyoming remain under the RTO designation?

Sincerely,

John Barrasso, M.D. United States Senator

Cynthia M. Lummis United States Senator Harriet M. Hageman Member of Congress

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