

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 31, 2013

The Honorable Patrick R. Donahoe  
Postmaster General of the United States  
United States Postal Service  
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW  
Washington, DC 20260-0010

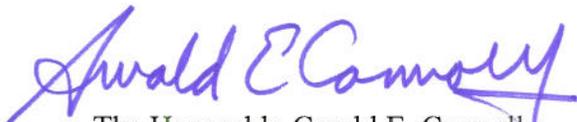
Dear Postmaster General Donahoe:

We write to respectfully request that the United States Postal Service (USPS) update analyses performed in the five-day postal delivery case brought before the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC), *Six-Day to Five-Day Street Delivery and Related Service Changes, 2010* (Docket Number 2010-1), which utilized Fiscal Year 2009 data. USPS's analysis offered to the PRC in Docket No. 2010-1 asserted that the elimination of a day of postal delivery would result in more than \$3 billion in annual net savings. However, the PRC's Advisory Opinion, which utilized more recent Fiscal Year 2010 data, concluded that USPS's savings estimates were overstated, and found that one-quarter of all First-Class and Priority mail would be delayed. Further, the Advisory Opinion found that USPS failed to evaluate the impact of a five-day delivery schedule on customers who reside or conduct business in rural or remote areas.

Since Docket No. 2010-1 was initiated, over the course of congressional hearings, floor debate, and personal conversations with you and your Office; we have repeatedly expressed our concern with USPS' analysis and justification. In particular, we share the PRC's concern that USPS did not adequately consider the impact of eliminating a day of mail service on rural and remote communities. We believe six-day delivery remains a critical strength and competitive advantage for USPS that will enable it to grow business and bolster revenue over the long-run. Accelerating a decline in mail volume by moving to five-day delivery would result in steep revenue losses, wiping out any operational cost-savings, while worsening the condition of USPS' balance sheet. As a confidential USPS-commissioned market research survey concluded, service cuts resulting in a 7.7 percent mail volume reduction would lead to a revenue loss of \$5.2 billion in the first year alone.

As the 113th Congress begins to consider comprehensive postal reform legislation, we believe updating the Docket No. 2010-1 analysis with the most recent data would be very beneficial to Members of Congress, relevant agencies, and postal stakeholders. As you are aware, since Docket No. 2010-1 was initially considered, mail volume and composition – as well as the broader American economy – have experienced substantial changes. Thus, we respectfully request that USPS conduct and publish Docket No. 2010-1 analyses utilizing the most accurate, up-to-date figures. Our respective Offices will also forward supplemental questions to be answered and included with any updated analyses. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Corey Dukes with Senator McCaskill's office or Benjamin Rhoadside with Congressman Connolly's office.

Sincerely,

  
The Honorable Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress

  
The Honorable Claire C. McCaskill  
Member of Congress