

February 24, 2012

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
United States Senate
713 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Brown:

As you are aware, the United States Postal Service yesterday announced the approval of the Area Mail Processing (AMP) study and the closure of the Dayton Processing and Distribution Center (PD&C). Under the plan, the workload and the over 400 employees of the Dayton Center will be transferred to the Columbus PD&C. The closure of the facility not only impacts the region's economy, but also reduces the basic postal service standards upon which the people and businesses of the Dayton Region rely.

In late November, the Postal Service held a public hearing in Dayton to obtain public comment about the draft Area Mail Processing Study (AMP). The Postal Service shared information from the draft AMP study and conclusions from the study were inconsistent, raising concerns about the study's validity. Postal Service statements asserting cost savings values that "support the business case for consolidation" ranged widely. The Dayton Development Coalition requested a copy of the AMP report and the Postal Service responded stated it was an "internal, pre-decisional document...it is the longstanding practice of the Postal Service not to publicly disclose the data and analysis underlying the proposal."

Access to the Study will permit an analysis of the Postal Service's projections and assumptions to determine if the results are valid. According to the Postal Service, the employees of the Dayton PD&C will be transferred to Columbus, although there is a restriction in the labor contract with the American Postal Workers Union prohibiting layoffs or employee relocation beyond 50 miles. The Columbus PD&C is 72 miles from the Dayton facility, potentially negating the assumption of personnel savings from the closure of the Dayton facility.

We appreciate the support that you have given to ensuring quality and efficient postal service to the Dayton Region.

We encourage you to obtain from the Postal Service the approved Area Mail Processing Study on the Dayton facility and allow the community to review the study. The Postal Service is under a moratorium on consolidations until after May 15 which provides a short window for the community to analyze the study and prepare a response strategy.

We also request that you urge the Postal Service to delay further action to consolidate the facilities until there has been sufficient Congressional and community review of any changes that could diminish the quality of postal service to the Dayton Region. The Coalition is committed to working with you and the Dayton Region Congressional Delegation on this important economic and business operation issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey C. Hoagland". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "H".

Jeffrey C. Hoagland
President and CEO