

LOUIS L. REDDING CITY COUNTY BUILDING  
8TH FLOOR



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COUNCIL

January 17, 2012

Manager of Consumer and Industry Contact  
South Jersey District  
P.O. Box 9001  
Bellmawr, NJ 08099-9631

Re: Delaware Processing and Distribution Center

Dear Sir/Madam:

We, the undersigned members of New Castle County Council, are writing to express our sincere concern and distress regarding the proposed plan to relocate the State of Delaware's *only* U.S. Mail Processing and Distribution Center at Hare's Corner to a facility in New Jersey. As you are aware, the current distribution center currently handles all United States mail for the State of Delaware with extraordinary efficiency and is a source of pride for New Castle County and, in fact, the entire State. This is due in no small part to the fact that the mail is processed and delivered within the State and is distributed using the most expedient routes to ensure swift distribution of mail to all Delaware residents.

Transporting Delaware's mail to a facility in New Jersey for processing and distribution would undoubtedly be an unattractive option to Delawareans, who are proud of their State and would not wish to surrender a coveted Delaware postmark to another state. United States mail originating in the State of Delaware should not bear a New Jersey postmark. This, however, is only one of many concerns.

We are greatly troubled by the certain negative effects this closure will bring to the Center's 500 postal employees, to Delaware residents, and indeed to the State's economy. Hundreds of employees and their families will be devastated by the loss or transfer of their jobs.

We in New Castle County government pride ourselves on providing top level services to citizens. Closing the Hare's Corner Distribution Center and relocating the postal processing and delivery of mail to Delaware via New Jersey will cause a major descent in delivery time. Many residents depend significantly on the U.S. Mail for the delivery of lifesaving medical supplies and prescriptions, and nearly all citizens still rely on U.S. Mail service for the timely delivery of at least a portion of financial transactions and other critical, time-sensitive documents. This

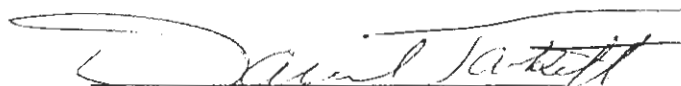
would, in effect, result in a rate increase since overnight delivery, currently standard service for the cost of a 44-cent stamp, could only be accomplished by paying express rates. This will financially impact Delaware residents, non-profit organizations and businesses. Delaware's many businesses, large and small, whose survival in today's economy depends on providing rapid delivery services to their customers, also stand to suffer further financial losses when formerly speedy delivery services deteriorate.

In addition, transporting mail for delivery to Delaware residents from another state is not cost effective, given the instability of gasoline prices, coupled with the significant additional mileage and tolls.

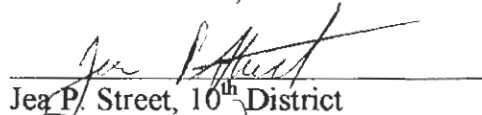
In sum, and for the foregoing reasons, we urge that strong consideration be given to the negative impacts of closing Delaware's only U.S. Postal Processing and Distribution Center located at Hare's Corner.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

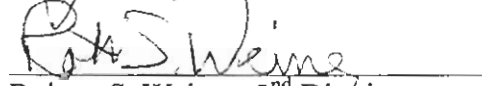
Respectfully,



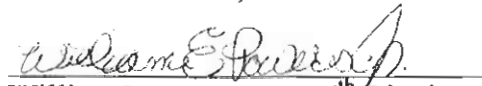
David L. Tackett, 11<sup>th</sup> District



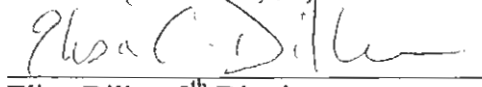
Jean P. Street, 10<sup>th</sup> District



Robert S. Weiner, 2<sup>nd</sup> District



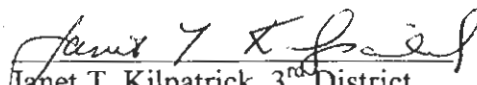
William E. Powers, Jr., 6<sup>th</sup> District



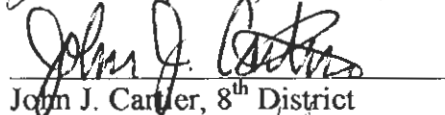
Elisa Diller, 5<sup>th</sup> District



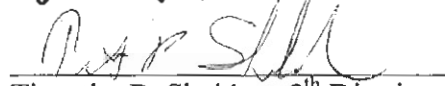
Penrose Hollins, 4<sup>th</sup> District



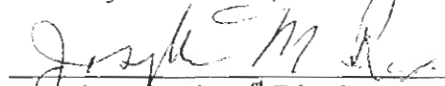
Janet T. Kilpatrick, 3<sup>rd</sup> District



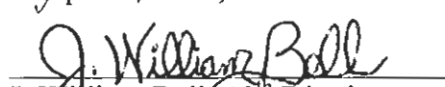
John J. Carter, 8<sup>th</sup> District



Timothy P. Sheldon, 9<sup>th</sup> District



Joseph M. Reda, 1<sup>st</sup> District



J. William Bell, 12<sup>th</sup> District

cc The Honorable Thomas R. Carper  
The Honorable Christopher A. Coons  
The Honorable John Carney