

December 15, 2023

The Honorable Louis DeJoy
Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 10300
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Postmaster General DeJoy:

I am writing to share my thoughts regarding the U.S. Postal Service's (USPS) review of the Cheyenne Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) and proposal to recategorize the location as a Local Processing Center (LPC).

I applaud USPS for working to modernize the nation's postal network. In fact, last year, I was proud to support these efforts by passing the *Postal Service Reform Act of 2022*. However, I am concerned that certain aspects of the Postal Service's ten-year strategic plan, such as recategorizing Cheyenne's facility as an LPC, will come at the expense of rural communities in Wyoming. Sadly, my Wyoming constituents know this all too well. In 2015, USPS closed dozens of the country's processing centers, and western Wyoming's mail sorting activities were transferred from Rock Springs to Salt Lake City. Since then, mail services have been severely impacted, and deliveries are often delayed by weeks.

Unfortunately, the ongoing review of Cheyenne's P&DC has not been transparent, and I have more questions than answers about what operations will be transferred to Denver. While USPS has said the plan will not disrupt services, it is unclear what data or factors have supported this statement. Additionally, while no career layoffs are expected as part of this initiative, employee reassignments will force individuals to relocate or find new employment.

On Tuesday, December 12, 2023, the Postal Service held a public meeting where Wyoming residents were able to share their comments regarding this proposal. I share the sentiments of my constituents who expressed concerns that the original estimated net decrease of four "craft" positions has already increased to seven and could eventually exceed that number. Additionally, it was mentioned that this proposal does not account for the growing population and large companies soon relocating to Cheyenne.

Wyoming residents deserve reliable mail service, and USPS has the responsibility to provide customers with the same level of service regardless of whether they are located in rural or urban areas. Many customers in Wyoming are disappointed with the current quality of service,

especially given that they will soon be paying increased postage rates, and this will only be exacerbated by recategorizing the Cheyenne P&DC.

This all being said, leaving Cheyenne without a P&DC is unacceptable. The impacted zip codes include the Wyoming State Capitol, F.E. Warren Air Force Base, the University of Wyoming, Cheyenne VA Medical Center as well as countless small businesses and families that rely on dependable mail service.

I urge you to take this feedback into consideration as the future of the facility is under review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Cynthia M. Lummis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "C".

Cynthia M. Lummis
United States Senator