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Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 19th day of January, 2012.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Michael D. Waters,**

Chief, Licensing Branch, Division of Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 2012-3123 Filed 2-9-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590-01-P**

## POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. A2012-120; Order No. 1198]

### Post Office Closing

**AGENCY:** Postal Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This document informs the public that an appeal of the closing of the Santa Fe, Missouri post office has been filed. It identifies preliminary steps and provides a procedural schedule. Publication of this document will allow the Postal Service, petitioners, and others to take appropriate action.

**DATES:** *Deadline for Petitioner's Form 61:* February 22, 2012, 4:30 p.m., eastern time; *deadline for answering brief in support of the Postal Service:* March 13, 2012, 4:30 p.m., eastern time. See the Procedural Schedule in the

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for other dates of interest.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments electronically by accessing the "Filing Online" link in the banner at the top of the Commission's Web site (<http://www.prc.gov>) or by directly accessing the Commission's Filing Online system at <https://www.prc.gov/prc-pages/filing-online/login.aspx>. Commenters who cannot submit their views electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section as the source for case-related

information for advice on alternatives to electronic filing.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Stephen L. Sharfman, General Counsel, at 202-789-6820 (case-related information) or [DocketAdmins@prc.gov](mailto:DocketAdmins@prc.gov) (electronic filing assistance).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 404(d), the Commission received two petitions for review of the Postal Service's determination to close the Santa Fe post office in Santa Fe, Missouri. The first petition for review received January 18, 2012, was filed by Valena Booth. The second petition for review received January 20, 2012, was filed by Robert F. Young. The earliest postmark date is January 6, 2012.

The Commission hereby institutes a proceeding under 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5) and establishes Docket No. A2012-120 to consider Petitioners' appeal. If Petitioners would like to further explain their position with supplemental information or facts, Petitioners may either file a Participant Statement on PRC Form 61 or file a brief with the Commission no later than February 22, 2012.

*Issue apparently raised.* Petitioners contend that the Postal Service failed to consider the effect of the closing on the community. See 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(2)(A)(i).

After the Postal Service files the administrative record and the Commission reviews it, the Commission may find that there are more legal issues than the one set forth above, or that the Postal Service's determination disposes of one or more of those issues. The due date for any responsive pleading by the Postal Service to this Notice is February 13, 2012.

Notwithstanding the Postal Service's determination to close this post office, on December 15, 2011, the Postal Service advised the Commission that it "will delay the closing or consolidation of any Post Office until May 15, 2012".<sup>1</sup> The Postal Service further indicated that it "will proceed with the discontinuance process for any Post Office in which a Final Determination was already posted as of December 12, 2011, including all pending appeals." *Id.* It stated that the only "Post Offices" subject to closing prior to May 16, 2012

are those that were not in operation on, and for which a Final Determination was posted as of, December 12, 2011. It affirmed that it "will not close or consolidate any other Post Office prior to May 16, 2012." *Id.* Lastly, the Postal Service requested the Commission "to continue adjudicating appeals as provided in the 120-day decisional schedule for each proceeding." *Id.*

The Postal Service's Notice outlines the parameters of its newly announced discontinuance policy. Pursuant to the Postal Service's request, the Commission will fulfill its appellate responsibilities under 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5).

*Availability; Web site posting.* The Commission has posted the appeal and supporting material on its Web site at <http://www.prc.gov>. Additional filings in this case and participants' submissions also will be posted on the Commission's Web site, if provided in electronic format or amenable to conversion, and not subject to a valid protective order. Information on how to use the Commission's Web site is available online or by contacting the Commission's webmaster via telephone at 202-789-6873 or via electronic mail at [prc-webmaster@prc.gov](mailto:prc-webmaster@prc.gov).

The appeal and all related documents are also available for public inspection in the Commission's docket section. Docket section hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., eastern time, Monday through Friday, except on Federal government holidays. Docket section personnel may be contacted via electronic mail at [prc-dockets@prc.gov](mailto:prc-dockets@prc.gov) or via telephone at 202-789-6846.

*Filing of documents.* All filings of documents in this case shall be made using the Internet (Filing Online) pursuant to Commission rules 9(a) and 10(a) at the Commission's Web site, <http://www.prc.gov>, unless a waiver is obtained. See 39 CFR 3001.9(a) and 3001.10(a). Instructions for obtaining an account to file documents online may be found on the Commission's Web site or by contacting the Commission's docket section at [prc-dockets@prc.gov](mailto:prc-dockets@prc.gov) or via telephone at 202-789-6846.

The Commission reserves the right to redact personal information which may infringe on an individual's privacy rights from documents filed in this proceeding.

*Intervention.* Persons, other than Petitioners and respondent, wishing to be heard in this matter are directed to

<sup>1</sup> United States Postal Service Notice of Status of the Moratorium on Post Office Discontinuance Actions, December 15, 2011, (Notice).

file a notice of intervention. *See* 39 CFR 3001.111(b). Notices of intervention in this case are to be filed on or before February 28, 2012. A notice of intervention shall be filed using the Internet (Filing Online) at the Commission's Web site unless a waiver is obtained for hardcopy filing. *See* 39 CFR 3001.9(a) and 3001.10(a).

**Further procedures.** By statute, the Commission is required to issue its decision within 120 days from the date it receives the appeal. *See* 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5). A procedural schedule has

been developed to accommodate this statutory deadline. In the interest of expedition, in light of the 120-day decision schedule, the Commission may request the Postal Service or other participants to submit information or memoranda of law on any appropriate issue. As required by the Commission rules, if any motions are filed, responses are due 7 days after any such motion is filed. *See* 39 CFR 3001.21.

*It is ordered:*

1. Any responsive pleading by the Postal Service to this notice is due no later than February 13, 2012.

2. The procedural schedule listed below is hereby adopted.

3. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Manon Boudreault is designated officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public.

4. The Secretary shall arrange for publication of this notice and order in the **Federal Register**.

By the Commission.

**Ruth Ann Abrams,**

*Acting Secretary.*

#### PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

January 18, 2012 .....	Filing of Appeal.
February 2, 2012 .....	Deadline for the Postal Service to file the applicable administrative record in this appeal.
February 13, 2012 .....	Deadline for the Postal Service to file any responsive pleading.
February 28, 2012 .....	Deadline for notices to intervene ( <i>see</i> 39 CFR 3001.111(b)).
February 22, 2012 .....	Deadline for Petitioners' Form 61 or initial brief in support of petition ( <i>see</i> 39 CFR 3001.115(a) and (b)).
March 13, 2012 .....	Deadline for answering brief in support of the Postal Service ( <i>see</i> 39 CFR 3001.115(c)).
March 28, 2012 .....	Deadline for reply briefs in response to answering briefs ( <i>see</i> 39 CFR 3001.115(d)).
April 4, 2012 .....	Deadline for motions by any party requesting oral argument; the Commission will schedule oral argument only when it is a necessary addition to the written filings ( <i>see</i> 39 CFR 3001.116).
May 4, 2012 .....	Expiration of the Commission's 120-day decisional schedule ( <i>see</i> 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5)).

[FR Doc. 2012-3001 Filed 2-9-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-FW-P

#### POSTAL SERVICE

##### **Notice of Availability: Programmatic Environmental Assessment for Mail Processing Network Rationalization Initiative (Formerly Known as the "Network Optimization" Initiative), Nationwide**

**AGENCY:** Postal Service.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of a Programmatic Environmental Assessment.

**SUMMARY:** To comply with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Postal Service has prepared and is making available a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for the Mail Processing Network Rationalization Initiative (the "Proposed Action"), which is national in scope. This PEA evaluated the environmental impacts of the Proposed Action versus taking No Action. Based on the results of the PEA, the Postal Service has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) indicating that the Proposed Action will not have a significant impact on the environment.

**DATES:** The PEA and FONSI are available as of February 6, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested parties may direct questions or requests for additional information, including

requests for copies of the PEA and FONSI documents, to: Mr. Thomas G. Day, Chief Sustainability Officer, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW., Room 2737, Washington, DC 20260; (202) 268-7488.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Postal Service is undertaking a Mail Processing Network Rationalization Initiative to create a more streamlined processing and distribution network using fewer facilities to handle an existing and projected decline in mail volumes. The proposal under consideration includes possible closure or consolidation of mail processing for approximately 250 processing facilities, reducing mail processing equipment by as much as 50 percent, dramatically decreasing the nationwide transportation network, adjusting the mail processing workforce size by as many as 35,000 positions, and revising service standards for mail services, including the elimination of the expectation of overnight service for significant portions of First-Class Mail and Periodicals.

Pursuant to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Postal Service's implementing procedures at 39 CFR part 775, and the President's Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), the Postal Service has prepared a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) to evaluate the environmental impacts of the Proposed Action versus the No Action Alternative. Based on the results

of the PEA, the Postal Service has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) indicating that the Proposed Action will not have a significant impact on the environment.

The No Action Alternative was analyzed as an alternative to the Proposed Action. Based upon the No Action Alternative, the Postal Service would not implement the Mail Processing Network Rationalization Initiative. Postal Service mail processing operations would continue essentially as is, at current capacity. No consolidation or closure of mail processing facilities, modification of current service standards for First-Class Mail and Periodicals, scaling back of the nationwide transportation network, or workforce adjustments would occur. Under the No Action Alternative the Postal Service would maintain current operating methods and protocols and would continue to operate at a budget deficit due to insufficient income to maintain current operating expenses.

**Stanley F. Mires,**

*Attorney, Legal Policy & Legislative Advice.*

[FR Doc. 2012-3082 Filed 2-9-12; 8:45 am]

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