

PATRICK MEEHAN
7TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA



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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3807
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EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

David C. Williams
Inspector General
United States Postal Service
1735 N. Lynn Street
Arlington, VA 22209-2020

Dear Inspector General Williams,

I am writing to request an Office of the Inspector General review of the Postal Service's final decision to consolidate the Southeastern PA Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) with the Philadelphia P&DC.

I have been engaged with the Postal Service throughout the Area Mail Processing (AMP) study process trying to understand the reasoning behind their desire to consolidate one of the top ten most efficient mail processing facilities in the country. I appreciate the need to for the Postal Service to make consolidations to reflect the changing nature of its business. But if the goal of the consolidation process is to promote efficiencies for customers and improve the Postal Service's fiscal situation, then it defies common sense to close down a highly efficient and productive facility.

In the case of the Southeastern PA facility, key questions have gone unanswered, and I share the concern of so many workers, customers and businesses in our region that its closure will harm our economy. I have spoken to business leaders who worry that the consolidation will jeopardize their ability to serve their own customers, and that threatens jobs in our region. I also note that the South Jersey facility in Bellmawr will remain open, even though it too was originally proposed to be consolidated with the Philadelphia facility, along with the Southeastern PA and Horsham PA facilities. In fact, every one of the 12 proposed consolidations in Pennsylvania were approved and not one stricken from the list. Postal Service workers and customers deserve an independent explanation to how these distinctions were made.

As part of its mission, the Office of the Inspector General conducts audits of postal programs and operations to determine whether those programs and operations are efficient and cost-effective. In today's announcement, the Postal Service justifies the consolidation by citing improved "efficiency and productivity."

For the foregoing reasons, I am respectfully requesting an independent review by the Postal Service Inspector General into the Area Mail Processing study process and today's announcement that the Southeastern Pennsylvania Processing and Distribution Center would be consolidated.

Sincerely,

Patrick Meehan
Member of Congress