

PATRICK MEEHAN
7TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA



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June 14, 2013

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

Dear Inspector General Williams,

Since last year I have been closely following the implementation of the U.S. Postal Service's Network Consolidation plan, particularly as it relates to the consolidation of the Southeastern Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) in my district. I write to you today to request an audit of the ongoing, revised consolidation of the Southeastern P&DC into two facilities: the Philadelphia P&DC and the Wilmington P&DC.

While I understand efforts by the Postal Service to recognize efficiencies and find savings through a nationwide consolidation of mail processing facilities, it has not been adequately demonstrated that this particular revision is the most effective. There was a formal process undertaken to inform the original decision-making, and subsequently assumptions that were material to that process were changed and a new conclusion was drawn essentially dismissing the very process that was undertaken in the first place. Our independent inquiry into this matter indicates that issues like personnel, transportation and equipment costs are essential to bottom-line savings. Yet it is difficult to see how this consolidation will realize savings in these areas. For these reasons there is ample justification to request additional examination of the revised consolidation plan.

I realize that part of the consolidation process includes two post-implementation reviews. I am fully aware, however, that a negative or unsatisfactory finding in those reviews is not likely to alter or reverse the consolidation. Therefore I ask that you conduct an independent audit prior to the conclusion of the consolidation.

Thank you for considering this request and I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Patrick Meehan
Member of Congress

CC: Patrick Donahoe, Postmaster General