## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

July 10, 2014

The Honorable Patrick R. Donahoe Postmaster General 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Postmaster General Donahoe:

As members of the Arizona delegation we are writing to oppose the recent announcement that the United States Postal Service (USPS) will resume the closure and consolidation process of 82 centers, including the Tucson Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC). As we have indicated previously, we are concerned that this closure will have a negative impact on the Tucson community and the State of Arizona as a whole.

The closure of Cherrybell would leave one of the nation's fastest growing population centers with only one processing facility and adversely impact both our constituents and the business community in Southern Arizona which uses the Postal Service for the majority of their mailings.

The partial consolidation of the Tucson center has already adversely affected individuals, businesses, and mailers in the community with delivery delays being reported. The recently announced decision will only exacerbate the problem, particularly for consumers in rural areas of Southern Arizona. Additionally, we are concerned consumers without easy access to the internet run the risk of disenfranchisement. At a time when the city and state are still recovering from a tough economic period, this could also discourage businesses looking to expand or relocate to Southern Arizona, resulting in a loss of jobs.

In your announcement you indicate that the closures will generate \$750 million in annual savings. However, it was reported that the USPS earned a profit from operations in Fiscal Year 2013 and in the first two quarters of 2014. In fact, the USPS Office of Inspector General reports that the Postal Service could generate \$9 billion by offering basic financial services without any cuts to traditional postal service.

We ask that you reverse this decision to close the Tucson Postal Processing & Distribution Center and work with Congress on comprehensive postal reform legislation. We look forward to working with you on this as the issue moves forward.

Sincerely,

Ravil M. Grijalva

Member of Congress

Ann Kirkpatrick

Member of Congress

Ron Barber

Member of Congress

Kyrsten Sinema

Member of Congress

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