

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

May 26, 2016

Ms. Tammy Whitcomb  
Acting Inspector General  
United States Postal Service, Office of the Inspector General  
1735 North Lynn Street  
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Dear Ms. Whitcomb,

We write to you today to request an audit of the United States Postal Service's consolidation of the operations of the Roanoke Processing and Distribution Center to the Greensboro Processing and Distribution Center.

As you know, in June 2014, the Postal Service announced that the Roanoke Processing and Distribution Center would close in 2015, and its functions would be transferred to the Greensboro facility. The Postal Service reported that originating letters and flat mail were to be processed in the Greensboro facility beginning on April 18, 2015. However, later that year, the Postal Service announced that it would defer plant consolidations until 2016. To date, our offices have not been notified when the consolidation will resume.

We respectfully request that the Office of the Inspector General review the mail processing operations to determine whether our constituents' mail is being processed in a timely manner. Our offices have seen a significant increase in constituent communications regarding lost or delayed mail. For example, we have heard reports that the mail is being sent to Greensboro, stamped with a cancellation notice, and sent back to Roanoke to be processed. The timing of these complaints strongly suggests a connection to the consolidation.

Second, we ask that the audit determine if a business case exists to support the consolidation. We understand that the Postal Service has experienced major financial challenges in recent years and it has cited cost savings to support the network consolidations. However, we are interested in learning whether this particular consolidation has in fact resulted in any savings or is projected to do so.

Many of our constituents live in rural areas and depend on reliable mail service. An audit would be valuable in ensuring proper mail service for Southwest Virginians and in evaluating the efficacy of the consolidation plans. We appreciate your consideration of this request and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

  
H. MORGAN GRIFFITH  
Member of Congress

  
BOB GOODLATTE  
Member of Congress