UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICE

10 April 2009

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ACTION OFFICE B. Brown
COPIES TO S. Stewart

SUSPENSE DATE 5/12/2009
REMARKS
CONTROL# 0403

Ms. Ana Gomez
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Ms. Ana Gomez:

The Postal Service is interested in supporting the National Telecommunications and Information Administration in its Rural Broadband Initiative. We could help achieve the program's objectives in an innovative, efficient and cost-effective manner. We applaud the intent to offer those in remote and rural areas the electronic tools necessary to connect and engage with the information market. This initiative offers the American public access to real-time information and electronic services, such as telemedicine, online collaboration, teleworking and more.

The Postal Service can offer significant value to this initiative by leveraging a national network of 32,700 Post Offices and proven experience in complex infrastructure deployments. Our daily operations are an integral element of the fabric of rural America. In many towns and villages, the Postal Service is the only visible presence of the federal government. We have a unique suite of assets that can extend wireless broadband from various service providers through post offices to homes, small businesses, schools, libraries and other public services and facilities.

The Postal Service proposes to lease space on postal premises to telecommunications carriers that will be required to support broadband infrastructure. In turn, they would provide products and services in rural areas, for which the Postal Service would have management oversight. Because of extensive experience "networking" more than 32,000 facilities nationwide and serving nine million customers each day at retail windows, the Postal Service uniquely understands what is required to successfully execute this initiative. This capability led to a successful partnership with the Department of State to provide passport processing services across the nation.

For over 225 years, the Postal Service has helped bind the nation together delivering more mail to more addresses in a larger geographical area than any other post in the world. We are the first and last mile in mail delivery, and we can do likewise for rural broadband.

We look forward to meeting with you and discussing our proposed partnership in greater detail at the earliest convenience.

Respectfully yours,

Ross Philo

Ross Philo, EVP and CIO
Information Technology

Marie-Therese Dominguez

Marie-Therese Dominguez, VP
Government Relations & Public Policy

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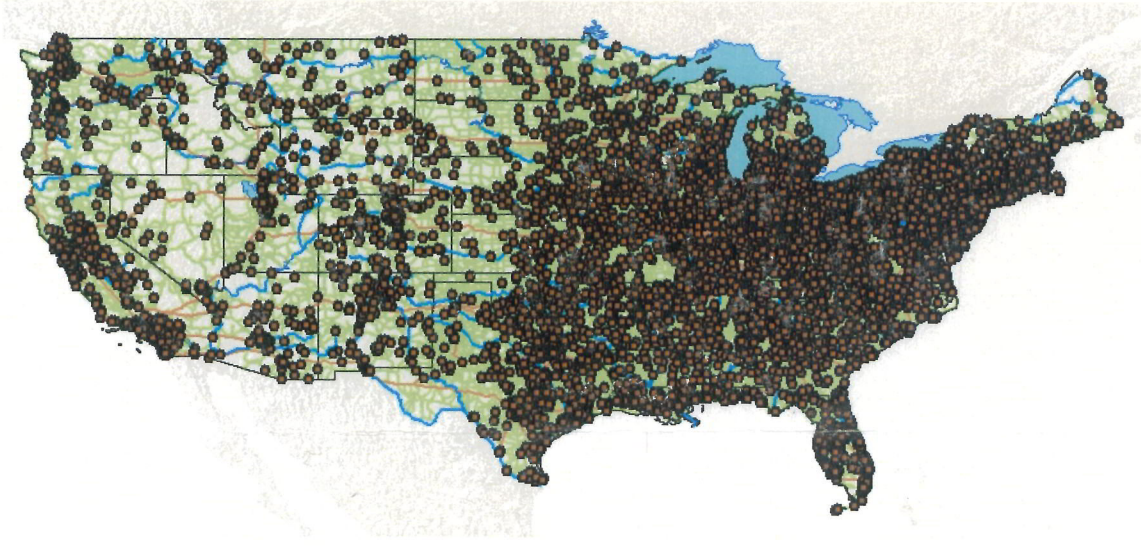

Diagram 1: Simulated National Coverage – all post offices with 10-mile radius on each

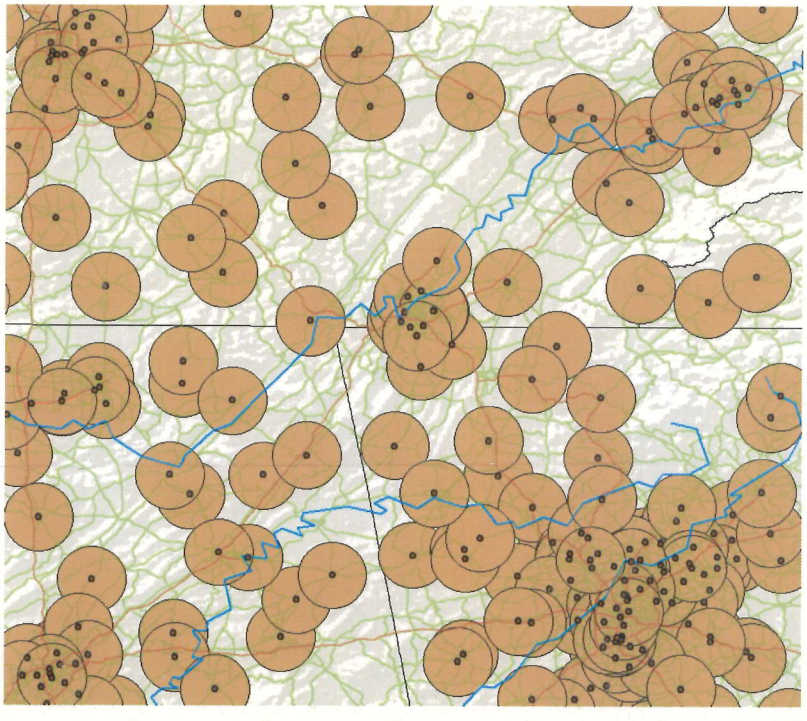

Diagram 2: Simulated Rural Coverage – intersection of GA, TN and AL

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