



April 12, 2018

Mr. Brian Wagner  
President  
National Association of Postal Supervisors  
1727 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314-2753

**Certified Mail Tracking Number:  
7016 1370 0002 3014 3136**

Dear Brian:

This letter is to inform you the Postal Service will be commencing a national initiative to observe and evaluate hub facility backhaul recycling operations. You were informed of the National Recycling Program by letter dated June 4, 2014 (attached). This activity is expected to commence during April and be completed during FY 19. You will be notified when site selection and dates have been finalized.

**Objective:** Perform observational evaluations at hub recycling facilities to develop a work process for mixed paper backhaul recycling activities. These observational evaluations will be conducted at facilities where standardized recycling dumper/compactor equipment has been deployed under the National Recycling Program. Recycling work hour needs have historically been locally estimated due to the non-standard nature of postal recycling operations. The recent national deployment of dumper/compactor equipment for recycling mixed paper provides an opportunity to develop a mixed paper backhaul recycling work hour estimate. The goal of the effort is to establish a standard process that enhances mixed paper backhaul recycling operations to improve recycling performance and management of work hours.

If there are any questions, please contact Terry LeFevre of my staff.

Sincerely,

Rickey R. Dean  
Manager  
Contract Administration (APWU)

Enclosure



June 4, 2014

Mr. Louis Atkins  
President  
National Association of Postal Supervisors  
1727 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314-2753

**Certified Mail Tracking Number:  
7013 3020 0002 3616 5601**

Dear Louis:

This letter serves as a general interest notification of the Postal Service's intent to implement a National Recycling Program in early July 2014.

The National Recycling Program involves backhauling recyclables from Associate Offices (AOs) to its servicing Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC). Backhaul recycling is transporting recyclables such as mixed paper to P&DCs in properly placarded empty mail transport equipment (MTE). This allows for the consolidation/aggregation of recyclables to maximize economies of scale and to receive the highest contract market prices for the recyclables. Since empty MTE is already returned to the P&DCs via existing transportation, the empty return MTE will be used to move the recyclable materials to maximize its financial benefit. The AO will also benefit from this Program by reduced trash disposal costs as the recyclables will no longer be discarded. This reverse logistics opportunity is an inherent recycling benefit for the Postal Service that few other entities can leverage. The initiative will involve installing recycling equipment such as universal dumpers/compactors to accept the MTE containing AO recyclables for consolidation.

Backhaul recycling will involve Mail Handlers at P&DCs unloading MTE containing the recyclables received from AO's and transporting them to a designated recycling staging area in the P&DC. Custodians will then load the MTE into the universal dumper/compactor to consolidate the recyclables for pickup by a recycling service vendor.

If there are any questions, please contact Jacqueline Adona of my staff at extension 3800.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick M. Devine".

Patrick M. Devine  
Manager  
Contract Administration (APWU)