

Downsizing universal service requirements

The New Zealand Approach

Königswinter Postal Seminar, November 2013

Robert Clarke

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Foreword

US Postmaster General, Patrick R. Donahoe



In *USA Today*, 19 July 2011:

“In 15 years, we'll probably be talking about delivering mail three days a week.”

Universal service requirements

- * Set out in Deed
- * Comprised:
 - * Retail presence
 - * Frequency of delivery
- * Excluded:
 - * Postage price caps
 - * Delivery deadlines
- * Quite light

Relative freedom

NZ Post increases cost of domestic stamps

11:23 AM Thursday, Mar 29, 2012



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New Zealand Post has confirmed it is scrapping next-day delivery for standard mail, with the new three-day target starting next month.

The postal letter will cost 60 cents.

NZ Post scraps next-day standard delivery



Last updated 07:37 17/09/2013



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New Zealand Post has confirmed it is scrapping next-day delivery for standard mail, with the new three-day target starting next month.

NZ Post proposal

- * Final version submitted in January 2013
- * Sought relaxation of existing requirements
 - * Retail presence: allow self-service kiosks
 - * Frequency of delivery: allow 3 days per week
- * Offered tightening-up of loose ends:
 - * Commitment to add new delivery points

Negotiated outcome

- * Announced in October 2013
- * Effective from mid-2015
- * Authorised:
 - * Retail presence: recourse to self-service kiosks from mid-2015
 - * Delivery frequency:
 - * Urban areas: 3 days per week
 - * Rural areas and PO Boxes: 5 days per week
 - * Cf Dutch Bill: daily delivery of medical mail (e.g. heel pricks)

Reaction



The New Zealand Herald

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Editorial: And now, the postman only calls thrice

5:30 AM Thursday Oct 24, 2013



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With the ubiquity of the internet it seems remarkable that any region of New Zealand would miss having a daily mail delivery. Yet the Government believes that all rural areas still need one. It will let New Zealand Post reduce its deliveries to three days a week from June 2015 - but only in towns and cities.



+ EXPAND

Postman on his round in Totara Street,

Reaction

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Government opens the door for massive cuts to New Zealand Post

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Opposition political parties



Why relax universal service requirements?

- * Revenue issues
- * Who cares?
- * Duplication of what competition produces
- * Judicially reviewable process

CallPlus confirms lawsuit against Amy Adams over telco review, 'copper tax'

Chris Keall | Thursday November 07, 2013 | [22 comments](#)



UPDATE: 10.30am: CallPlus has confirmed it has filed proceedings against the government in High Court at Wellington over its controversial review of the Telecommunications Act (2001).



Latest

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fall as Chorus slide
continues. Xero loses](#)

Animation

The image features a solid blue header bar at the top. The bottom edge of this bar is wavy and transitions into a white background. Below the header, there are several overlapping, semi-transparent light blue shapes that create a layered, wavy effect, suggesting motion or depth.