

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Health Service Regulation Certificate of Need Section

2704 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2704 http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dhst/

Drexdal Pratt, Director

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor Albert A. Delia, Acting Secretary Craig R. Smith, Section Chief Phone: (919) 855-3873 Fax: (919) 733-8139

August 16, 2012

Susan K. Hackney K&L Gates PO Box 14210 Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

RE: Exempt from Review / Acquisition of Springs of Catawba adult care home / Catawba County

FID#: 960659

Dear Ms. Hackney:

In response to your letter of August 9, 2012, the above referenced proposal is exempt from certificate of need review in accordance with N.C.G.S 131E-184(a)(8). Therefore, Hickory Health Holdings, LLC may proceed to acquire the above referenced health service facility without first obtaining a certificate of need. However, you need to contact the Adult Care Licensure Section of the Division of Health Service Regulation to obtain instructions for changing ownership of the existing facility. Note that pursuant to N.C.G.S. §131E-181(b): "A recipient of a certificate of need, or any person who may subsequently acquire, in any manner whatsoever permitted by law, the service for which that certificate of need was issued, is required to materially comply with the representations made in its application for that certificate of need."

It should be noted that this Agency's position is based solely on the facts represented by you and that any change in facts as represented would require further consideration by this Agency and a separate determination. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

Les Brown

cc:

Project Analyst

Craig R. Smith, Chief Certificate of Need Section

Adult Care Licensure Section, DHSR



K&L GATES

August 9, 2012

Mr. Craig Smith, Chief Certificate of Need Section Division of Health Service Regulation Department of Health and Human Services 809 Ruggles Drive Raleigh, NC 27603 K&L Gates LLP Post Office Box 14210 Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-4210

430 Davis Drive, Suite 400 Morrisville, NC 27560



Re: Exemption Notice for the Springs of Catawba (Adult Care Home in Catawba County)

Dear Craig:

Our client, Hickory Health Holdings, LLC is planning to acquire an adult care home in Hickory, Catawba County, known as the Springs of Catawba (hereafter "the Facility"). The Facility is located at 2010 29th Avenue Drive, NE; Hickory, North Carolina. The Facility is listed in the "Inventory of Adult Care Home Beds" in the 2012 State Medical Facilities Plan as having 66 adult care home beds. <u>See</u> Exhibit A. The Facility also is listed in the Proposed 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan as having 66 adult care home beds. <u>See</u> Exhibit B.

Hickory Health Holdings, LLC is seeking to purchase the Facility through a purchase and sale agreement. The purpose of this letter is to provide prior notice of this acquisition, which is exempt from certificate of need ("CON") review, to the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Service Regulation, Certificate of Need Section (the "Agency"). Hickory Health Holdings, LLC seeks confirmation that it is permitted to acquire the Facility as described herein without CON Review, thus acquiring the Facility's existing CON rights to own that existing health service facility (as defined in the CON statute) with 66 adult care home beds.

I. THE PROPOSAL

As of this date, Hickory AL Investors, LLC owns the property and building comprising the Facility, which is an existing "health service facility," as that term is defined in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 131E-176(7a) and Hickory Health Investors, LLC is the licensee. Hickory Health Holdings, LLC will purchase the Facility and Hickory Health Investors, LLC will remain the licensee. The Facility will still be known as Springs of Catawba.

II. EXEMPTION NOTICE

Under North Carolina law, a certificate of need ("CON") is required only prior to offering or developing a "new institutional health service." "New institutional health service"

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Mr. Craig Smith, Chief August 9, 2012 Page 2

includes a variety of services and activities, including a capital expenditure exceeding \$2 million. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 131E-176(16)(b).

The North Carolina General Assembly saw fit to exempt certain types of services or proposals from CON review, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 131E-184. One such exempt service or proposal includes the acquisition of an existing health service facility, "including equipment owned by the health service facility at the time of acquisition." N.C. Gen. Stat. § 131E-184(a)(8).

This project involves only the acquisition of an existing adult care home, which falls within the purview of the statutory definition of "health service facility." After acquisition, Hickory Health Holdings, LLC will operate the Facility as an adult care home. Furthermore, Hickory Health Holdings, LLC's acquisition of the Facility does not entail the purchase of any major medical equipment or any *per se* reviewable equipment as defined in N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 131E-176(140) and (16)(f1). Likewise, the acquisition does not include the offering of any *per se* reviewable services. N.C. Gen. Stat. § 131E-176(16)(f). Thus, given that the transaction involves only the acquisition of an existing health service facility, it is exempt from CON review.

III. CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing information, we hereby request the Agency's confirmation that the proposal described above is exempt from CON review, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 131E-184(a)(8), and thus Hickory Health Holdings, LLC may acquire the Facility with all its existing CON rights without a CON.

In addition, we respectfully request that this request be considered on an <u>expedited basis</u> because the parties wish to proceed with this transaction as soon as possible. Additionally, financing of the transaction is contingent upon this confirmation.

If you require additional information to consider this request, please contact us at the above number as soon as possible. We thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Susan K. Hackney

Enclosure

Table 11A: Inventory of Adult Care Home (Assisted Living) Beds	
Inventory	
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Care Home	
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TIME	Village	Carebridge Assisted Living Community	Ravview Nursing and Rehabilitation	Waterbrooke Assisted Living	Shoreland Health Care & Retirement Center	Premier Living and Rehab Center	Liberty Commons Nursing & Rehab Center	Lake Pointe Assisted Living	Cleveland Totals	Summit Place of Kings Mountain	Sterling House of Shelby	Somerset Court of Shelby	Vanor	Openview Retirement Home	Vings Mountain Care Center	Carillon Assisted Living of Shelby	Clay Totals	Hayesville House	Clay County Care Center	Chowan Totals	Edenton Prime Time Retirement Village	House Cheloric Louis		Carolina Care Home #2	Carolina Care Home #1	ermination	Chatham Totals	Pittsboro Christian Village	Hill Forest Rest Home	The Arbor - (Bed Counts per CON project conditions)	Coventry House of Siler City	Carolina Meadows - Fairways	Cambridge Hills of Pittsboro	Catawba Totals	The Alberta House	Sterling House of Hickory	Springs of Catawba	Piedmont Village at Newton	Lutheran Home/Hickory	Village	Hickory Manor	Catawba Valley Living at Kock Barn	Carillon Assisted Living of Newton	Brian Center Health & Rehabilitation/Hickory E.	Adult Care Home	
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Table 11A: Inventory of Adult Care Homes (Assisted Living) Beds - Proposed 2013 Plan

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