

medwest



Carolinus HealthCare

MedWest- Harris
68 Hospital Road.
Sylva, NC 28779

MedWest- Haywood
262 Leroy George Drive
Clyde, NC 28721

MedWest- Swain
45 Plateau Street
Bryson City, NC 28713

March 28, 2011

DFS Health Planning
RECEIVED

MAR 23 2011

MEDICAL FACILITIES
PLANNING SECTION

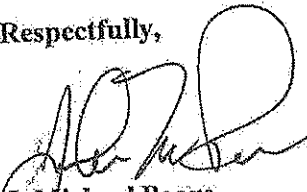
Dr. Christopher G. Ulrich, Chair
Technology and Equipment Committee
c/o Medical Facilities Planning Section
Division of Health Service Regulation
2714 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2714

As President and Chief Executive Officer of Medwest Health System, we request that a new methodology be developed to determine the need for additional mobile PET scanners in the Western Region of North Carolina.

The Medical Facilities Planning Section determined no need for an additional mobile scanner in Western North Carolina for 2011. Haywood and Jackson Counties are a rural area, and patients in both are underserved and often lack access to PET services. There is currently only one mobile PET scanner for 18 hospitals in Western North Carolina and it is operating at capacity. The current PET scanner in the Medwest Health System, located at Medwest Harris, receives mobile PET services only one day every other week. The proposed mobile PET methodology will ensure greater safety and quality access.

Medwest Health System believes that the proposed mobile PET methodology warrants support in order to provide fair, reliable processes for determining statewide need for additional mobile PET scanners.

Respectfully,


J. Michael Poore
Chief Executive Officer
Medwest Health System

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