Dr. Christopher Ullrich, Chair State Health Coordinating Council c/o Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section **Division of Health Service Regulation** 2704 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-2704

Re: Withdrawal of Onslow County Operating Room Petition

Dear Dr. Ullrich:

As you are aware, Wilmington Health submitted a petition on July 26, 2017, requesting a special need determination for two operating rooms in Onslow County to be developed in a freestanding ambulatory surgical facility. I am hereby formally withdrawing our petition from consideration, hopefully in a timeframe that prevents the Staff and Council from unnecessary work and analysis.

We continue to believe that Onslow County residents lack access to ambulatory surgery in a lower cost setting within their home county; however, as expressed in our petition, it is our sincere desire to support the local hospital and medical staff who serve that community. Onslow Memorial Hospital has expressed its concerns about the potential negative impact of our petition, as well as its position that it does have two existing operating rooms that it could reasonably contribute to an ASC. It believes that this would be a better option for Onslow County, and Wilmington Health agrees.

We intend to continue working with the hospital and local physicians in a good faith effort to find a solution that most effectively benefits Onslow County residents. To that end, I respectfully request that you allow us to withdraw our petition.

Please feel free to reach out with any additional questions.

Sincerely,

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Chief Financial Officer