



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

JOSH STEIN • Governor

DEVDUTTA SANGVAI • Secretary

MARK PAYNE • Director, Division of Health Service Regulation

VIA EMAIL ONLY

October 8, 2025

Tina Hinshaw

Tina.hinshaw@akumin.com

Exempt from Review – Replacement Equipment

Record #: 4944

Date of Request: September 19, 2025

Business Name: Alliance Healthcare Services, Inc.

Business #: 60

Project Description: Temporary replacement of mobile MRI scanner

County: Wake

Dear Ms, Hinshaw:

The Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section, Division of Health Service Regulation (Agency), determined that the above referenced project is exempt from certificate of need review in accordance with G.S. 131E-184(a)(7). Therefore, you may proceed to temporarily replace mobile MRI scanner ESP60 with mobile MRI scanner ESP55 while mobile MRI scanner ESP60 undergoes maintenance and repairs. This determination is based on your representations that mobile MRI scanner ESP55 will be removed from the State upon completion of the maintenance and repairs on mobile MRI scanner ESP60 and will not be used again in the State without first obtaining a certificate of need if one is required.

It should be noted that the 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 office and a separate determination. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

Gregory F. Yakaboski
Project Analyst

Micheala Mitchell
Chief

cc: Acute and Home Care Licensure and Certification Section, DHSR

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE REGULATION

HEALTHCARE PLANNING AND CERTIFICATE OF NEED SECTION

LOCATION: 809 Ruggles Drive, Edgerton Building, Raleigh, NC 27603

MAILING ADDRESS: 809 Ruggles Drive, 2704 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2704

<https://info.ncdhhs.gov/dhsr/> • TEL: 919-855-3873

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER



September 18, 2025

Mr. Mike McKillip, CON Analyst
Mr. Greg Yakaboski, CON Analyst
Ms. Micheala Mitchell, Chief
Health Planning and Certificate of Need Section
2704 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2704

Business Name: Alliance Health Services
Business Number: 60
ESP60 Serial # 1M9A3A82XGH022846 Siemens Espree
ESP55 Serial # 1M9A3A82XFH022831 Siemens Espree

RE: Alliance Healthcare Services (aka Akumin) - Written Notice for Exemption from CON Review for the
Temporary Replacement of ESP60

Dear Mr. McKillip, Mr. Yakaborski, and Ms. Mitchell:

I am writing regarding the need to temporarily replace MRI scanner ESP60 such that maintenance and repairs can be completed. Please accept this notice of exemption to temporarily replace ESP60 with ESP55, which is an existing mobile MRI scanner owned by Akumin and will be utilized as the interim temporary MRI for this scanner. When ESP55 is no longer needed to serve as a temporary replacement for ESP60, it will be removed from North Carolina.

The legacy Akumin MRI ESP60 is a scanner that has properly been reported in the 2024 NC MRI Equipment Inventory and serves five mobile sites.

This letter provides justification and written notice regarding the replacement equipment in accordance with NCGS 131 E-184. Akumin also provides documentation that the equipment conforms to the Certificate of Need Laws and Administrative rules: GS 131E-184(a) (7) Exemptions from review to provide replacement equipment 10A NCAC 14C.0303 Replacement Equipment Administrative Rules.

Compliance Documentation

Compliance with G.S. 131E-176 (22a) Replacement Equipment Definition is evident because the temporary replacement scanner has a fair market value of \$900,000 which is less than the \$2,000,000 threshold. The replacement PETCT equipment will be used for the same diagnostic purposes as the existing equipment. In addition, Akumin is providing written notice to the Department in accordance with G.S. 131E-184 (a) (7) Exemption from Review to provide replacement equipment.

Applicability and Conformance with Administrative Rule 10A NCAC 14C.0303 Replacement Equipment Akumin plans to use an existing mobile PETCT as a temporary replacement. No equipment will be purchased. The temporary replacement equipment conforms to the rules as follows:

10A NCAC 14C .0303 REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT (a) This Rule defines the terms used in the definition of "replacement equipment" set forth in G.S. 131E-176(22a).

Akumin has reviewed this rule definition.



(b) "Currently in use" means that the equipment to be replaced has been used by the person requesting the exemption at least 10 times to provide a health service during the 12 months prior to the date the written notice required by G.S. 131E-184(a) is submitted to the CON Section.

Akumin confirms that ESP60 meets the definition of "currently in use" because the MRI scanner provides service during the previous 12 months prior to the date of this written notice.

(c) Replacement equipment is not "comparable" if: (1) the replacement equipment to be acquired is capable of providing a health service that the equipment to be replaced cannot provide; or (2) the equipment to be replaced was acquired less than 12 months prior to the date the written notice required by G.S. 131E-184(a) is submitted to the CON Section and it was refurbished or reconditioned when it was acquired by the person requesting the exemption.

The replacement MRI scanner is comparable to the equipment being replaced because the temporary replacement equipment will be used to acquire the same types of MRI images and data. Akumin certifies that the replacement mobile MRI equipment will be used for the same diagnostic purposes as the existing MRI unit.

The existing equipment, ESP60, will be temporarily replaced by ESP55, which will be removed from North Carolina once repairs to ESP60 are completed. The temporary use of replacement ESP55 will be discontinued in approximately four weeks (November 2025) when the repair of ESP55 has been completed and returned to service.

Thank you for your review and consideration of this information. Please call me at 805.325.3078 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Tina Hair Hinshaw, MBA
RVP, Mobile Operations Southeast Region
805.325.3078
tina.hinshaw@akumin.com

CC: Rodney Skelding, Manager of Operations, Akumin Lisa Barrera, Manager of Operations, Akumin

From: [Mitchell, Micheala L](#)
To: [Stancil, Tiffany C](#)
Cc: [Mckillip, Mike](#)
Subject: FW: [External] Akumin - Temp Coverage of ESP 60
Date: Friday, September 19, 2025 8:28:50 AM
Attachments: [AR_NCCON_ESP55 Temp Coverage for ESP60_09182025.pdf](#)

GM Tiffany,

Would you mind assigning this to Greg? Thanks!

Micheala Mitchell, JD
[NC Department of Health and Human Services](#)
[Division of Health Service Regulation](#)
Section Chief, Healthcare Planning and CON Section
809 Ruggles Drive, Edgerton Building
2704 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2704
Office: 919 855 3879
Micheala.Mitchell@dhhs.nc.gov

From: Tina Hinshaw <tina.hinshaw@akumin.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2025 5:52 PM
To: Mckillip, Mike <mike.mckillip@dhhs.nc.gov>; Mitchell, Micheala L <Micheala.Mitchell@dhhs.nc.gov>; Yakaboski, Greg <greg.yakaboski@dhhs.nc.gov>
Cc: Tina Hinshaw <tina.hinshaw@akumin.com>; Rodney Skelding <rodney.skelding@akumin.com>; Lisa Barrera <lisa.barrera@akumin.com>
Subject: [External] Akumin - Temp Coverage of ESP 60

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Micheala, Michael, Greg,
Akumin ESP60 has had a mechanical issue with its trailer. ESP55 will be coming into the state on Friday, 9/19. Should you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you.



Tina

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[astro_2025](#)



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