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CON Section

CAROLINA CARDIOLOGY CORNERSTONE

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April 28, 2011

Mr. Craig Smith, Chief  
Certificate of Need Section  
Division of Health Service Regulation  
2704 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2704

Dear Mr. Smith:

As a practicing cardiologist and Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee of High Point Regional's Board of Trustees, I am writing in opposition to the proposal by Moses Cone Health System and Triad Surgery, LLC. The proposed project will result in a duplication of services for Guilford County, and specifically, in High Point. While I realize that no new operating room capacity will be introduced into the market as a result of this project, reallocation of underperforming ORs to a brand new facility, and spending in excess of \$10,000,000 to do so, is not a responsible approach by any health care provider. Given the excess OR capacity that exists within Guilford County, and within one mile of the proposed site at the CON approved Premier Surgery Center, the development of this facility constitutes unnecessary duplication of existing services and creates unnecessary expenses resulting from costly construction.

It is my hope that the CON Section will appropriately deny the request made by Moses Cone and Triad Surgery, LLC. Existing facilities and providers should be challenged to more efficiently utilize and operate existing resources, as opposed to developing costly new facilities in an over saturated market.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my concern. Please contact me if I may be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

H. Barrett Cheek, M.D.