

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Health Service Regulation

Pat McCrory Governor Aldona Z. Wos, M.D. Ambassador (Ret.) Secretary DHHS

> Drexdal Pratt Division Director

August 7, 2013

Aneel Gill UHS-Pruitt Corporation 1626 Jeurgens Court Norcross GA 30093

Exempt from Review

Facility:

UniHealth Post-Acute Care-Raleigh

Project Description:

Construct an addition to the existing facility to increase the number of private

rooms and add common areas, including dining, theater, and internet café space

County:

Wake

FID#:

990762

Dear Mr. Gill:

In response to your letter of August 1, 2013, the above referenced proposal is exempt from certificate of need review in accordance with N.C.G.S 131E-184(e). Therefore, you may proceed to offer, develop or establish the above referenced project without a certificate of need. However, you need to contact the Construction and Nursing Home Licensure and Certification Sections of the Division of Health Service Regulation to determine if they have any requirements for development of the proposed project.

It should be noted that this determination is binding only for the facts represented by you. Consequently, if changes are made in the project or in the facts provided in your correspondence referenced above, a new determination as to whether a certificate of need is required would need to be made by the Certificate of Need Section. Changes in a project include, but are not limited to: (1) increases in the capital cost; (2) acquisition of medical equipment not included in the original cost estimate; (3) modifications in the design of the project; (4) change in location; and (5) any increase in the number of square feet to be constructed.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

Michael J. McKillip

Project Analyst

Craig R Smith, Chief Certificate of Need Section

cc:

Construction Section, DHSR

Nursing Home Licensure and Certification Section, DHSR

Certificate of Need Section

www.ncdhhs.gov

Telephone: 919-855-3873 • Fax: 919-733-8139 Location: Edgerton Building • 809 Ruggles Drive • Raleigh, NC 27603 Mailing Address: 2704 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-2704

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August 1, 2013

Mr. Craig Smith
Chief, Certificate of Need Section
Division of Health Service Regulation
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
809 Ruggles Drive
Raleigh, NC 27604

RE: Request for Determination of Exemption under N.C.G.S. 131E-184(e); Capital Expenditure that Exceeds the \$2,000,000 Threshold Set Forth in N.C.G.S. 131E-176(16)b

Dear Mr. Smith,

I am formally writing this letter to respectfully request a determination of exemption from Certificate of Need ("CON") review in accordance with N.C.G.S. 131E-184(e) for a capital expenditure that exceeds the two million dollar (\$2,000,000) threshold set forth in N.C.G.S. 131E-176(16)b. The proposed expenditure will occur at UniHealth Post-Acute Care-Raleigh, an existing 150-bed health services facility located at located at 2420 Lake Wheeler Road, Raleigh, NC 27603 ("UPAC-Raleigh").

The aforementioned expenditure will entail the addition of a new wing to the facility that will house 37 new private rooms, a new dining area, two new residential living/common areas, a theatre and an internet café. The proposed capital expenditure will also include the construction of a new, 24 private room, Memory Support Unit ("MSU") Annex that will be constructed on the campus. The MSU Annex will, itself, possess two new dining areas and two new common areas. Please see Exhibit 1 for detailed floor plans of the proposed additions and site plan. As detailed below, the proposed project will meet all of the conditions set forth in N.C.G.S. 131E-184(e).

- (1) The proposed capital expenditure should:
- a. Be used solely for the purpose of renovating, replacing on the same site, or expanding an existing:
- 1. Nursing home facility,
- 2. Adult care home facility, or
- 3. Intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded; and

The proposed capital expenditure is being used solely for the purpose of renovating, replacing and expanding parts of UPAC-Raleigh, an existing nursing home facility.

b. Not result in a change in bed capacity as defined in N.C.G.S. 131E-176(5), or the addition of a health service facility or any other new institutional health service other than allowed in N.C.G.S. 131E-176(16)b.

The proposed capital expenditure will not result in a change in bed capacity. UPAC-Raleigh currently possesses 150 nursing beds and it will possess 150 nursing beds after completion of the project. Further, the proposed project will not involve the addition of a health service facility or any other new institutional health service.

- (2) The entity proposing to incur the capital expenditure provides prior written notice to the Department, which notice includes documentation that demonstrates that the proposed capital expenditure would be used for one or more of the following purposes:
- a. Conversion of semiprivate resident rooms to private rooms.

The proposed capital expenditure will entail a significant amount of conversion of semiprivate to private resident rooms. UPAC-Raleigh currently maintains 20 private resident rooms and 65 semiprivate resident rooms. After the project is completed, UPAC Raleigh will maintain 142 private resident rooms and four semiprivate resident rooms, amounting to a 71% increase in private resident rooms at the facility.

b. Providing innovative, homelike residential dining spaces, such as cafes, kitchenettes, or private dining areas to accommodate residents and their families or visitors.

The proposed project will add a significant amount of space that will provide for innovative, homelike residential dining spaces to accommodate residents and their families or visitors. As the floor plans for the proposed project located in Exhibit 1 illustrate, the new wing addition and MSU annex addition will entail the addition of three (3) new dining spaces for residents and their families or visitors. Further, all new dining areas will have modern amenities and will be furnished to portray a more homelike setting. Please see Exhibit 2 for pictures of recent dining area additions to other UniHealth facilities that mimic the dining additions for the proposed project.

The planned MSU annex will bring elements of the innovative Green House program to the campus. This program was developed by William Thomas, MD in cooperation with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Since its inception in 2003, the program has evolved and is now in place in 32 locations in the country. Design elements support resident engagement in everyday life and enables staff to build on resident talents and capabilities, without increasing staffing requirements. Exhibit 4 contains a summary of the Green House program.

c. Renovating, replacing, or expanding residential living or common areas to improve the quality of life of residents.

The proposed project will serve to replace and expand residential living/common areas in order to improve the quality of life of the residents at UPAC-Raleigh. As the floor plans for the proposed project located in Exhibit 1 illustrate, the new wing addition and MSU annex will entail the addition of four (4) new residential living/common areas that will promote the quality of life of the residents. All new residential living/common areas will provide state-of-the-art equipment and will be furnished such that residents will have more space for programs and events. Please see Exhibit 3 for pictures of recent living/common area additions to other UniHealth Post-Acute Care facilities that mimic the residential living/common area additions for the proposed project.

The North Carolina General Assembly has exempted certain capital expenditures from CON review set forth in 131E-176(16)b and one such exempt service includes an addition as outlined above. N.C.G.S. 131E-184(e).

This capital expenditure involves the renovation/replacement/expansion of an existing nursing home facility and will not result in a change in the bed capacity. Further, the capital expenditure will entail the conversion of a significant amount of private rooms to semiprivate rooms and will provide new dining and residential living/common areas that will suffice the requirements provided in the statute. Therefore, given that the capital expenditure will meet all of these requirements it is exempt from CON review.

Based on the information presented, we request the Agency's confirmation that the capital expenditure described herein is exempt from CON Review pursuant to N.C.G.S. 131E-184(e) and UPAC-Raleigh may begin the proposed project without a CON.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Aneel Gill, MBA/MHA

UHS-Pruitt Corporation

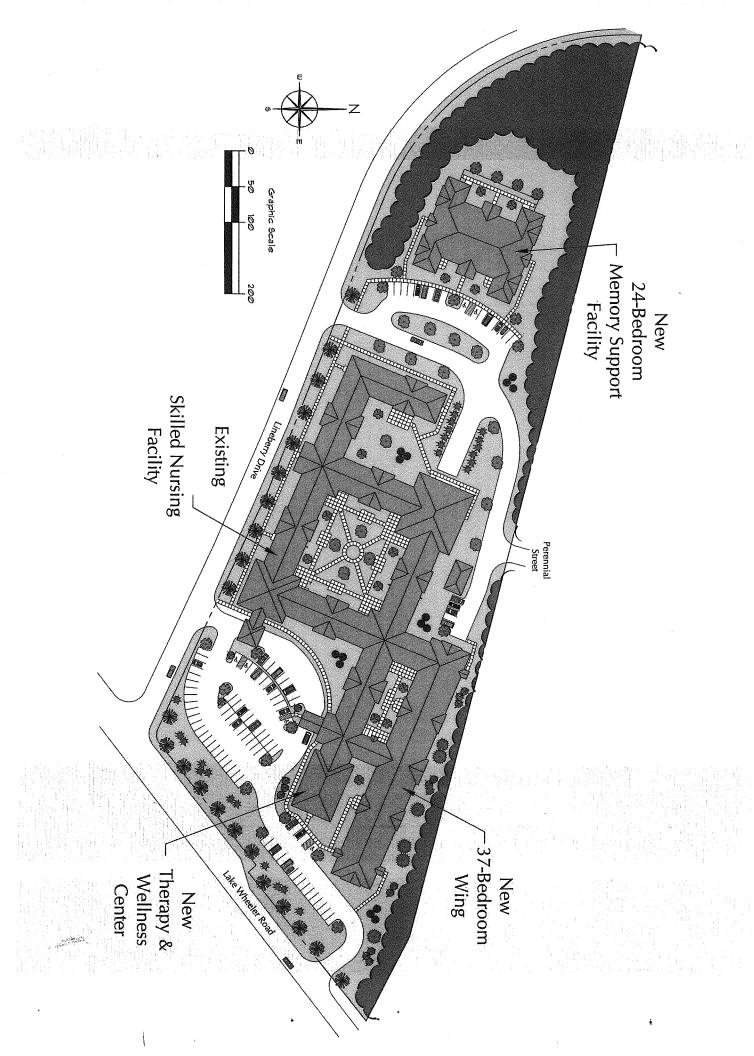
1626 Jeurgens Court Norcross, GA 30093

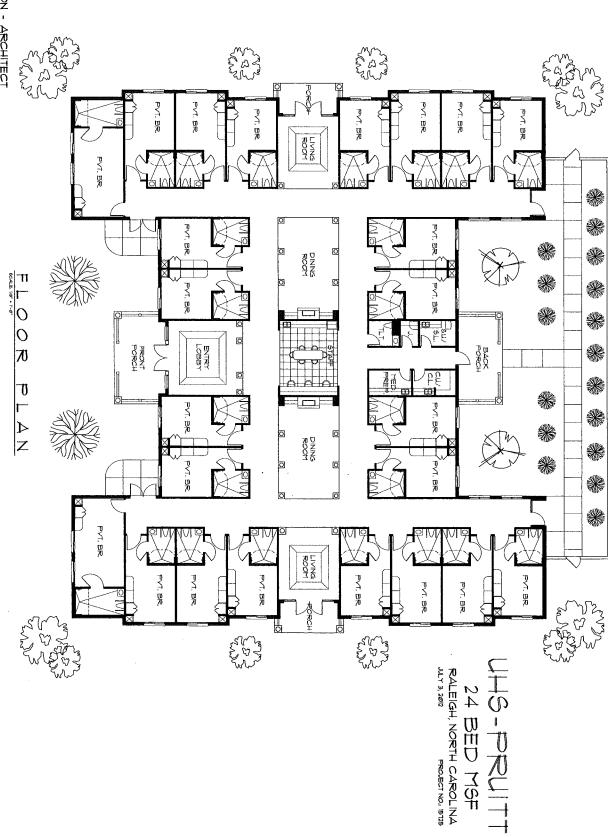
(678) 533-6699

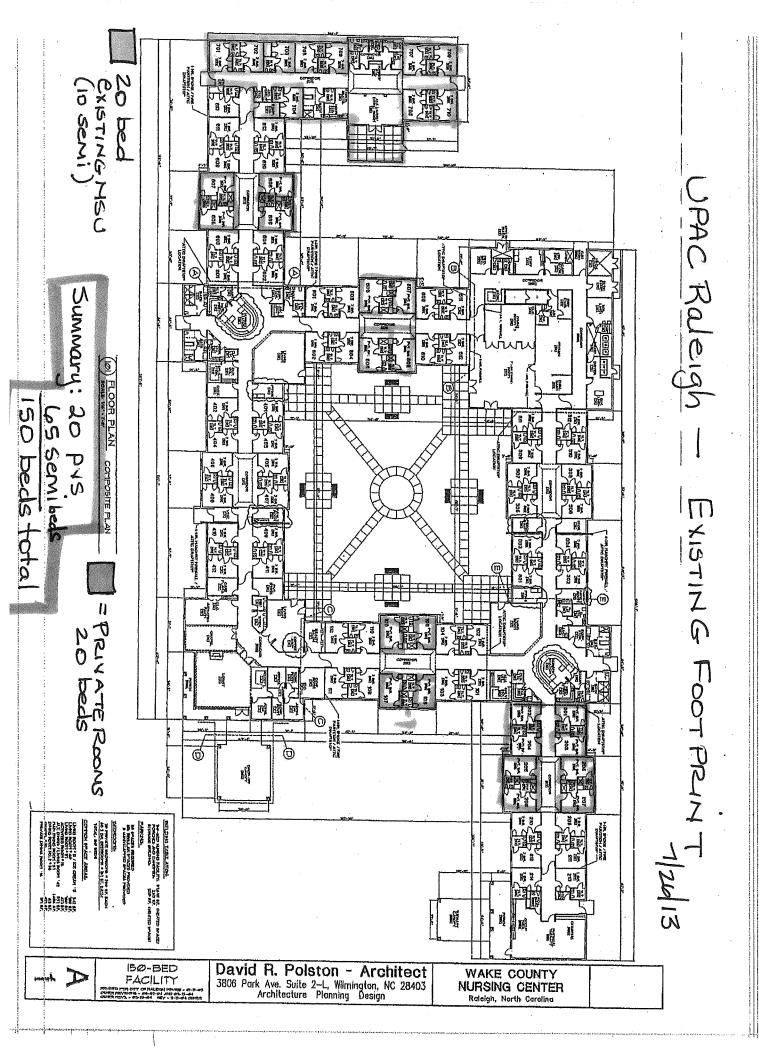
asgill@uhs-pruitt.com

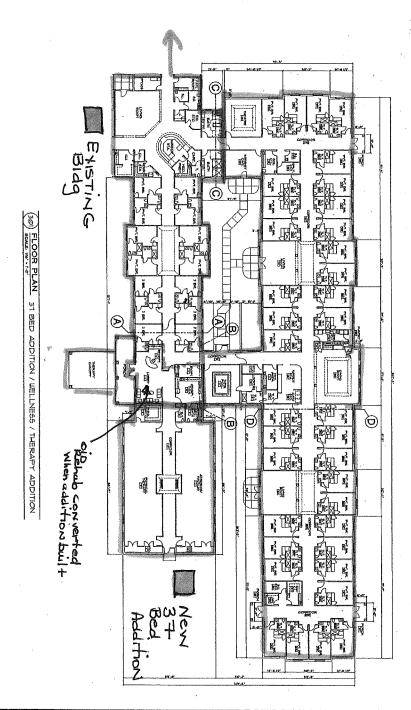
Exhibit 1

Floor Plan of Proposed Additions and Site Plan









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37 BED / WELLNESS / THERAPY ADDITION David R. Polston - Architect 3806 Pork Ave. Suite 2-L, Wilmington, NC 28403 Architecture Planning Design

WAKE COUNTY NURSING CENTER Raleigh, North Carolina

Exhibit 2

Pictures of Recent Dining Room Additions

Recently completed UniHealth dining areas



