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August 1, 2008

Carol J. Potter  
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DFS Health Planning  
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Medical Facilities  
PLANNING SECTION

Dear Ms. Potter:

I am writing to strongly advise against the linear accelerator dedicated for prostate therapy, as currently being proposed in Cary. There are already many linear accelerators in the area that are well able to provided excellent radiotherapy for patients with prostate cancer. Providing a CON for a machine, focusing on a particular disease type, is not, in my opinion, good public policy.

Excellent multidisciplinary care for patients with prostate cancer is available at many centers in our area. In particular, multidisciplinary tumor boards are commonplace here at UNC, at Duke, as well as many other hospitals in the area.

I believe that the designation of a machine focusing on a particular type (e.g. prostate cancer) may lead to a rapid increase in the number of similar requests for accelerators designated for a variety of other disease types, throughout the state.

As the Chairman of Radiation Oncology at UNC, I can unequivocally state that we will provide care for any patient in need, whether insured or indigent. We will be most happy to care for any patient with prostate cancer that come here to UNC, or at our other facilities at Rex and in Smithfield.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lawrence B. Marks". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lawrence B. Marks