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Providing Complete Urologic Care for Men, Women and Children

July 29, 2010

Gene DePorter, Assistant Chief Medical Facilities Planning Section NC Division of Health Service Regulation 2714 Mail Service enter Raleigh, N.C. 27699-2714

Dear Mr. DePorter,

It has come to my attention that the State Medical Facilities Plan has identified the need for an additional "inpatient" hospice bed in Cleveland County. I am communicating my support for the Special Need Petition which is requesting that this "bed" could be made available for a CON application.

I am a resident of Cleveland County and I have worked with Hospice of Cleveland County in many capacities over the years since its inception. I currently serve on the board and I'm a member of the strategic planning committee. As a practicing physician I have personally witnessed the extraordinary benefit provided to many of my own patient's by this organization during the last 25 years.

You are probably aware that Wendover occupancy has been at capacity for most of the last five years. Obviously this means that the needs of many patients and their families who desired a bed at Wendover were unable to be met -- they passed away while being on the waiting list. Since opening our new facility in Kings Mountain, Wendover still remains fully occupied.

Thank you for your time and consideration. A favorable response to our petition would be a very wise use of resources and benefit many in Cleveland County.

Robert P Gossett, M.D.