

medwest

March 29, 2011



Carolina HealthCare

Dr. Christopher G. Ulrich, Chair
Technology and Equipment Committee
c/o Medical Facilities Planning Section
Division of Health Service Regulation
2714 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2714

MedWest- Harris
68 Hospital Road
Sylva, NC 28779

MedWest- Haywood
262 Leroy George Drive
Clyde, NC 28721

MedWest- Swain
45 Plateau Street
Bryson City, NC 28712

DFS Health PLANNING
RECEIVED

MAR 29 2011

Medical Facilities
PLANNING SECTION

Dear Dr. Ulrich,

As Chief Operating Officer of Medwest Health System, I am in support of the petition regarding a new methodology be developed to determine the need for additional mobile PET scanners in the Western Region of North Carolina.

The Medical Facilities Planning Section determined no need for an additional mobile scanner in Western North Carolina for 2011. Both Haywood and Jackson County are in rural areas of the State, and patients in both Counties are underserved and often lack access to PET services. There is currently only one mobile PET scanner for 18 hospitals in Western North Carolina and it is operating at capacity. The current PET scanner in the Medwest Health System, located at Medwest Harris, receives mobile PET services only one day every other week.

I believe that the proposed mobile PET methodology merits approval in order to provide an equitable, consistent process for determining statewide need for additional mobile PET scanners.

Respectfully submitted

Teresa Reynolds MSA, BSN, RN
Chief Operating Officer
Medwest Health System

medwest