



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

**ROY COOPER** • Governor

**KODY H. KINSLEY** • Secretary

**MARK PAYNE** • Director, Division of Health Service Regulation

**RESPONSE REQUIRED**

March 26, 2024

F. Del Murphy, Jr.  
2525 Court Drive  
Gastonia, NC 28054

**Conditional Approval**

Project ID #: F-12449-24  
Facility: CaroMont Regional Medical Center - Belmont  
Project Description: Cost overrun for Project ID# F-11749-19 (develop a new 54-bed acute care hospital)  
County: Gaston  
FID #: 190371

Approved Capital Expenditure: \$57,451,462  
Conditions of Approval: See Attachment A  
Approved Timetable: See Attachment B  
Last Date to Appeal: April 25, 2024  
Required State Agency Findings: Enclosed

Dear Mr. Murphy:

The Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section, Division of Health Service Regulation (Agency) has conditionally approved the above referenced certificate of need application. The conditional approval is valid only for the approved capital expenditure shown above. If the capital cost will exceed the approved capital expenditure amount by more than 115%, the applicant must first obtain a new certificate of need.

**Response to the conditions in Attachment A should be attached to an email addressed to the Project Analyst and the Co-signer no later than 35 days from the date of the decision.** The certificate of need will not be issued if the response to the conditions in Attachment A has not been received by the Agency.

The timetable for completion of the project is the timetable outlined in the certificate of need application, unless an adjustment has been made by the Agency because the review period was extended. The approved timetable for this project is found in Attachment B.

The applicant shall not begin developing this project until after the certificate of need has been issued and the certificate of need will not be issued until the applicant has documented that all conditions that must be met prior to issuance of the certificate of need have been met.

The Certificate of Need law provides that any affected person has thirty (30) days after the date of the decision to file a petition for a contested case on this approval. Further, if you are aggrieved by any of the conditions you may file a petition for a contested case hearing in accordance with G.S.150B, Article 3. This petition must be filed with the Office of Administrative Hearings, 6714 Mail Service

**NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE REGULATION**

**HEALTHCARE PLANNING AND CERTIFICATE OF NEED SECTION**

LOCATION: 809 Ruggles Drive, Edgerton Building, Raleigh, NC 27603  
MAILING ADDRESS: 2704 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2704  
<https://info.ncdhhs.gov/dhsr/> • TEL: 919-855-3873

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Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-6714 within thirty (30) days of the date of this decision. Effective October 1, 2009, OAH requires a filing fee with submittal of petitions for contested cases. Please direct all questions regarding this fee to the OAH Clerk's Office (919-431-3000).

G.S. 150B-23 provides that a party filing a petition must also serve a copy of the petition on all parties to the petition. Therefore, if you file a petition for a contested case hearing, you must serve a copy of the petition on the Department of Health and Human Services by mailing a copy of your petition to:

Julie Cronin  
Department of Health and Human Services,  
Office of Legal Affairs,  
Adams Building – Room 154  
2001 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina, 27699-2001

It is requested that a copy of the petition also be served on the Agency.

The certificate of need will not be issued before the completion of thirty-day appeal period which ends on the date shown above. If a contested case petition is filed with OAH within the thirty-day appeal period, the certificate will not be issued until the appeal is resolved.

If the decision is appealed, the timetable set forth in this letter will be adjusted accordingly before the certificate of need is issued. Please contact this office if any clarification of this decision is required.

Please refer to the Project ID # and Facility ID # (FID) in all correspondence.

Sincerely,



Crystal Kearney  
Project Analyst  
[Crystal.kearney@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Crystal.kearney@dhhs.nc.gov)

Lisa Pittman  
Assistant Chief  
[Lisa.pittman@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Lisa.pittman@dhhs.nc.gov)

Enclosures:

Attachment A: Conditions of Approval  
Attachment B: Approved Timetable  
Required State Agency Findings

cc: Acute & Home Care Licensure & Certification Section, DHSR  
Construction Section, DHSR

**Attachment A**  
**Conditions of Approval**

1. Gaston Memorial Hospital, Incorporated and CaroMont Health, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as certificate holder) shall materially comply with the representations made in this application and representations made in Project ID # F-11749-19. Where representations conflict, the applicant shall materially comply with the last made representation.
2. The certificate holder shall develop CaroMont Regional Medical Center – Belmont, as approved in the certificate of need for Project ID# F-11749-19, with no change of scope in the development of the proposed project.
3. The total combined capital expenditure for this project and Project ID # F-11749-19 is \$253,247,237 an increase of \$ 57,451,462 over the capital expenditure of \$195,795,775 previously approved in Project ID# F-1149-19.
4. The certificate holder shall develop and implement an Energy Efficiency and Sustainability Plan for the project that conforms to or exceeds energy efficiency and water conservation standards incorporated in the latest editions of the North Carolina State Building Codes.
5. Progress Reports:
  - a. Pursuant to G.S. 131E-189(a), the certificate holder shall submit periodic reports on the progress being made to develop the project consistent with the timetable and representations made in the application on the Progress Report form provided by the Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section. The form is available online at: <https://info.ncdhhs.gov/dhst/coneed/progressreport.html>.
  - b. The certificate holder shall complete all sections of the Progress Report form.
  - c. The certificate holder shall describe in detail all steps taken to develop the project since the last progress report and should include documentation to substantiate each step taken as available.
  - d. The first progress report shall be due on September 1, 2024.
6. The certificate holder shall not acquire as part of this project any equipment that is not included in the project's proposed capital expenditures in Section Q of the application and that would otherwise require a certificate of need.
7. The certificate holder shall acknowledge acceptance of and agree to comply with all conditions stated herein to the Agency in writing prior to issuance of the certificate of need.

**Attachment B**  
**Approved Timetable**

<b>Milestone</b>		<b>Date</b> <i>mm/dd/yyyy</i>
1	Financing Obtained	10/01/2023
2	Construction / Renovation Completed	11/17/2023
3	Equipment Installed	09/30/2023
4	Equipment Operational	09/30/2023
5	Building / Space Occupied	11/17/2023
6	Licensure Obtained	11/17/2023
7	<b>Services Offered</b>	07/01/2024
8	Medicare and / or Medicaid Certification Obtained	07/01/2024
9	Facility or Service Accredited	04/01/2024