Proposed Clarifying Language for Chapter Six of the North Carolina 2013 Proposed State Medical Facilities Plan

Current wording in Chapter Six of the North Carolina 2012 State Medical Facilities Plan, page 65 (emphasis added):

Step 4 – Inventory of Operating Rooms (Columns M through S)

m. Determine the utilization rate for each licensed facility providing surgical services and exclude from Step 5 – "Determination of Need" the operating rooms in **chronically underutilized licensed facilities located in operating room service areas with more than one licensed facility**. Chronically underutilized licensed facilities are defined as licensed facilities operating at less than 40 percent utilization for the past two fiscal years, which have been licensed long enough to submit at least three License Renewal Applications to the Division of Health Service Regulation.

Propose the addition of the following sentence, which is shaded and in bold print:

Step 4 – Inventory of Operating Rooms (Columns M through S)

m. Determine the utilization rate for each licensed facility providing surgical services and exclude from Step 5 – "Determination of Need" the operating rooms in chronically underutilized licensed facilities located in operating room service areas with more than one licensed facility. **Do not exclude from Step 5 operating rooms in facilities located in service areas where all facilities are chronically underutilized.** Chronically underutilized licensed facilities are defined as licensed facilities operating at less than 40 percent utilization for the past two fiscal years, which have been licensed long enough to submit at least three License Renewal Applications to the Division of Health Service Regulation.