



July 18, 2025

NC Division of Health Service Regulation
State Health Coordinating Council
Healthcare Planning Section
2704 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2704

Dear Council Members:

I am writing to provide our group's full support of CaroMont Health's petition to place a linear accelerator in the 2026 State Medical Facilities Plan for Area 6. Our support is based on the following unique characteristics of our local situation:

- The two linear accelerators currently located in Gaston County at CaroMont Regional Medical Center are the busiest units among the state's top 15 cancer centers.
- Area 6 contains the following counties: Cleveland, Gaston, Lincoln and Rutherford. Based on available patient origin data and as explained in the petition, Lincoln and Rutherford counties should be aligned to other planning areas. The low utilization of the units in these two counties is suppressing the need for an additional unit in Gaston County.
- Since 2019, Gaston County's cancer incidence rate is higher than the rate of cancer seen across the other Area 6 counties.
- An additional linear accelerator in Gaston County will enhance local access to care and improve the quality of care provided to the community.

Thanks for your consideration of this critical petition. If I can be of assistance in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerome Butler", is written over a white background.

Jerome Butler, MD
Radiation Oncologist

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