



**Eastern Maine
Medical Center**
Inspiring confidence in care

489 State Street
PO Box 404
Bangor, Maine 04402-0404
207.973.7000
www.emmc.org

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SEP 30 2009

Division of Licensing and
Regulatory Services

September 23, 2009

Ms. Phyllis Powell
DHS Certificate of Need Unit
41 Anthony Avenue
State House Station #11
Augusta, ME 04333-0011

Re: EMMC Inpatient Care Certificate of Need: Request for Extension of Commencement

Dear Ms. Powell,

Since the CON award in October, 2008, EMMC leaders have been working with the architects, financial advisors, staff and physicians to move the Inpatient Care project ahead while considering the Conditions that were a part of the CON award.

This letter is to request a 12-month commencement extension to Eastern Maine Medical Center's CON. Per CON rules the Department may grant an extension of a certificate for an additional 12 months for good cause. We believe that the additional time analyzing design options to meet the CON conditions and selecting the most financially sound option given the current economic conditions meet the criteria for good cause.

I remain committed to this much needed project and will use the additional time to continue to develop the approach that works best for our patients, families and staff.

Because of the changes in the economy which impacted our timeline, we are asking for an extension to the commencement of the project for one year, to October 1, 2010. We await your response in writing.

We would be pleased to respond to your questions. Thank you very much for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Deborah Carey Johnson
President and CEO, Eastern Maine Medical Center

cc: Helen McKinnon, RN,
VP of Support Services EMMC

Jean Mellett
Director of Planning, EMHS

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