Bybee, Cressinda

From:

Chronister, Ronald [ronald.chronister@bipc.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 28, 2012 10:49 AM

To:

Bybee, Cressinda sjones@circlec.net

Cc: Subject:

Response to Comment from Scott Jones

Attachments:

ScannedFile.pdf

Ms. Bybee: I am attaching a response from UPE to the comment in support of the affiliation received by the Insurance Department from Scott Jones. I am also copying Mr. Jones with the response by email at the address in the heading of his comment letter to the Insurance Department

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0280

BEFORE THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

Statement Regarding the Acquisition of Control of or Merger with Domestic Insurers:

Highmark Inc.; First Priority Life Insurance Company, Inc.;
Gateway Health Plan, Inc.; Highmark Casualty Insurance Company;
Highmark Senior Resources Inc.; HM Casualty Insurance Company;
HM Health Insurance Company, d/b/a Highmark Health Insurance Company;
HM Life Insurance Company; HMO of Northeastern Pennsylvania, Inc.,
d/b/a First Priority Health; Inter-County Health Plan, Inc.;
Inter-County Hospitalization Plan, Inc.; Keystone Health Plan West, Inc.;
United Concordia Companies, Inc.; United Concordia Dental Plans of Pennsylvania, Inc.;
United Concordia Life and Health Insurance Company

By UPE, a Pennsylvania nonprofit corporation

Response of UPE to Comment of Scott Jones Dated March 20, 2012

UPE is responding to the comment from Scott M. Jones received by the Pennsylvania Insurance Department on March 19, 2012. The comment is numbered as Document 0264 on the Highmark/ West Penn Cumulative Log page of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department website.

Mr. Jones has stated his support for the proposed affiliation of Highmark Inc. ("Highmark") and West Penn Allegheny Health System ("WPAHS") noting that it is important to not only preserve this valuable community resource but also to ensure continued health care competition in order to stabilize rising health care costs and preserve jobs.

UPE is in agreement with Mr. Jones and believes that this transaction will ensure continued vitality of WPAHS, maintain provider choice in our community, and help control rising medical costs. The ultimate plan is to build a new integrated health system that will deliver value, choice, and high-quality health care services to the Western Pennsylvania community.

UPE would like to thank Mr. Jones for his comments and support.

UPE 120 Fifth Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222

DATE: March 28, 2012

cc: Scott M. Jones