

0704

Bybee, Cressinda

From: Chronister, Ronald [ronald.chronister@bipc.com]
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2012 10:45 AM
To: Bybee, Cressinda
Cc: Respol@comcast.net
Subject: Response to Public Comment from Gerald McGinnis
Attachments: ScannedFile.pdf

Ms. Bybee: I am attaching a response from UPE to the comment received by the Insurance Department from Gerald McGinnis. I am also copying Mr. McGinnis with the response by email.

TAX ADVICE DISCLAIMER: Any federal tax advice contained in this communication (including attachments) was not intended or written to be used, and it cannot be used, by you for the purpose of (1) avoiding any penalty that may be imposed by the Internal Revenue Service or (2) promoting, marketing or recommending to another party any transaction or matter addressed herein. If you would like such advice, please contact us.

Above email is for intended recipient only and may be confidential and protected by attorney/client privilege.

If you are not the intended recipient, please advise the sender immediately.

Unauthorized use or distribution is prohibited and may be unlawful.

03

**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 Gerald E. McGinnis Dated April 12, 2012**

UPE is responding to the comment from Gerald McGinnis received by the Pennsylvania Insurance Department April 16, 2012. The comment is numbered as Document 0619 on the Highmark/West Penn Cumulative Log page of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department website.

Mr. McGinnis, founder of Respironics, Inc., has stated his support for the proposed affiliation of Highmark Inc. ("Highmark") and West Penn Allegheny Health System ("WPAHS"). Mr. McGinnis highlights the importance of preserving competition in the health care market in Western Pennsylvania and how a healthy competitive atmosphere will ultimately benefit patients and the community.

UPE is in agreement with the comments of Mr. McGinnis and believes the proposed affiliation is essential to preserving WPAHS as a valuable community asset for the people of Western Pennsylvania, and will strengthen the market by enhancing consumer choice.

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

UPE
120 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

DATE: May 14, 2012

cc: Gerald E. McGinnis