

Bybee, Cressinda

From: Chronister, Ronald [ronald.chronister@bipc.com]
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2012 10:52 AM
To: Bybee, Cressinda
Subject: Response to Comment letter from Dawn Landis
Attachments: ScannedFile.pdf

Ms. Bybee: I am attaching a response from UPE to the comment received by the Insurance Department from Dawn Landis, President of the Suburban Hospital Foundation. I am also copying Ms. Landis with the response by mail sent to the address on her comment letter.

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**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 the Dawn Landis Dated April 9, 2012**

UPE is responding to the comment from Dawn Landis received by the Pennsylvania Insurance Department April 13, 2012. The comment is numbered as Document 0464 on the Highmark/West Penn Cumulative Log page of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department website.

Ms. Landis, President of the Suburban Health Foundation, has expressed support for the proposed affiliation of Highmark Inc. ("Highmark") and West Penn Allegheny Health System ("WPAHS"). Ms. Landis highlights the Foundation's and the Suburban Campus of Allegheny General Hospital's work in providing community health and development programs as well as access to high-quality healthcare for area residents. She further notes the importance of the presence of the Suburban Campus particularly for residents of the North Boroughs.

UPE is in agreement with the comments of Ms. Landis and believes that this transaction will ensure the continued vitality of WPAHS by delivering value, choice, and high-quality healthcare services to the Western Pennsylvania community. UPE agrees that maintaining continued provider choice and competition is essential to preserving and stabilizing the healthcare market in the region.

UPE would like to thank Ms. Landis and the Suburban Health Foundation for their comments and support.

UPE
120 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

DATE: May 14, 2012

cc: Dawn Landis, President of the Suburban Health Foundation