

1357

Bybee, Cressinda

From: Chronister, Ronald [ronald.chronister@bipc.com]
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2013 7:46 AM
To: Bybee, Cressinda
Cc: sush1@comcast.net
Subject: Response to Public Comment from Sandra Usher
Attachments: ScannedFile.pdf

Ms. Bybee,

Attached is a response to the public comment received by the Insurance Department from Sandra Usher. I am providing Ms. Usher with a copy of the response with this email.

Ron Chronister

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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 Sandra Usher Dated April 8, 2013**

UPE is responding to the comment from Sandra Usher received by the Pennsylvania Insurance Department on April 9, 2013. The comment is numbered as Document 1312 on the Highmark/West Penn Cumulative Log page of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department website.

Ms. Usher has stated her support for the proposed affiliation of Highmark Inc. ("Highmark") and West Penn Allegheny Health System ("WPAHS"). Ms. Usher notes the high quality of care that patients receive at WPAHS and that WPAHS plays an important role in the community.

UPE is in agreement with Ms. Usher and believes that this transaction will ensure continued vitality of the West Penn Allegheny Health System, maintain provider choice in our community, and help control rising medical costs.

UPE would like to thank Ms. Usher for her comments and support.

UPE
120 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

DATE: April 17, 2013

cc: Sandra Usher