



September 30, 2024

VIA Electronic Filing: shpda.online@shpda.alabama.gov

Ms. Emily Marsal, Esq.
Executive Director
State Health Planning and Development Agency
100 North Union Street, Suite 870
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

RV2024-040
RECEIVED
Sep 30 2024
STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

RE: Request for Reviewability Determination
The Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama Hospital
Wallace Tumor, 1st Floor
Purchase/Installation of Positron Emission Tomography/Computed Tomography Imaging
System

Ms. Marsal:

Pursuant to Alabama Certificate of Need Rules and Regulations, "CON Rules") 410-1-7-.02, The Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama Hospital ("Board") respectfully requests your review and determination that the Board does not require a Certificate of Need ("CON") from the State Health Planning and Development Agency to initiate and complete the acquisition and installation of a Positron Emission Tomography/Computed Tomography Imaging System at the University of Alabama Hospital ("Wallace Tumor PET CT Renovation").¹ To complete your review, the Board respectfully submits the following information:

The Board is planning to replace the existing PET CT Imaging System, originally installed in 2013, with a new 32cm PET/CT Imaging System. The Wallace Tumor PET CT Renovation will also involve the addition of four (4) uptake rooms. The construction budget for the project is \$1,187,000. There will be \$2,198,697 new equipment planned for the space. No new First Year Annual Operating Costs are projected.

The proposed construction will not exceed any of the CON expenditure thresholds as set forth in CON Rule 410-1-2-.07, which, effective October 1, 2023, are \$3,322,582 for major medical equipment; \$1,327,734 for new annual operating costs; and \$6,638,679 for other capital expenditures.

The Board submits this request due to a recent change in policy at the Alabama Department of Public Health ("ADPH"), which now requires either a Certificate of Need or a Letter of Non-Reviewability for all construction projects if those projects result in a facility renovation or modification, which triggers a Life Safety Inspection. The

¹ The University of Alabama Hospital, an academic medical center and the largest hospital in the State of Alabama, is a division of the Board. The hospital is comprised of two acute care hospitals: University Hospital (the main hospital) and Highlands Hospital, and located within a few blocks of each other in Birmingham, Alabama. Together, the hospitals comprise the University of Alabama at Birmingham ("UAB") Hospital Campus. The hospitals operate under the same SHPDA ID number, under one Tax ID number, under one Medicare and Medicaid provider number, and under one hospital license (H3717) issued by the Alabama Department of Public Health.

Wallace Tumor PET CT Renovation will trigger an ADPH Life Safety Inspection. However, the proposed project will result in neither an increase in the number of licensed inpatient hospital beds nor will the project result in a reclassification of beds. No new institutional health services will be offered because of the construction project and the hospital existing medical service area, which is comprised of Jefferson, Blount, St. Clair, Walker, Shelby, Bibb, and Chilton counties, will remain the same. Additionally, the Wallace Tumor PET CT Renovation project meets the criteria specified in CON r. 410-1-4-.01(1)(j).

We respectfully request your determination that the Wallace Tumor PET CT Renovation project is not subject to CON Review and is not required to obtain a CON. The \$1,000.00 filing fee has been submitted electronically. A copy of the confirmation of payment is attached.

Should you have any questions regarding the proposed project, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at cransburgbrown@uasystem.edu.

Respectfully Submitted,



C. Ransburg-Brown, JD
University Counsel
UAB Medicine Enterprise

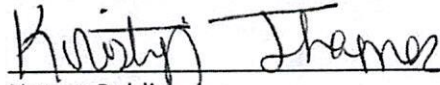
Affirmation of Requesting Party

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, hereby makes an oath or affirms that she is legal counsel for The University of Alabama Hospital, has knowledge of the facts in the attached Reviewability Determination Request, and to the best of her information, knowledge, and belief, such facts are true and correct.

AFFIANT Cynthia Ransburg-Brown

(SEAL)

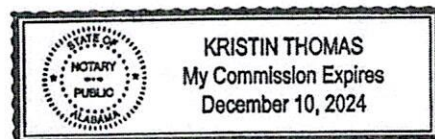
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me on this the 30th day of September 2024.



Notary Public

Alabama, Jefferson County

My commission expires 12/10/24





RV2024-040

RECEIVED

Oct 15 2024

STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

October 14, 2024

VIA Electronic Filing: shpda.online@shpda.alabama.gov

Ms. Emily Marsal, Esq.
Executive Director
State Health Planning and Development Agency
100 North Union Street, Suite 870
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

RE: Request for Additional Information – RV2024-040
The Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama Hospital
(Wallace Tumor, 1st Floor)
SHPDA ID: 073-6530304

Ms. Marsal:

This letter is in follow up to your request for additional information regarding Reviewability Determination Request RV2024-040, filed by the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama Hospital, which seeks a reviewability determination regarding the plan to replace the existing Position Emission Tomography Imaging System, originally installed in 2013, with a new 32cm PET/CT Imaging System along with the renovation/addition of four (4) uptake rooms ("Wallace Tumor, 1st Floor").

Please note the following additional information:

1. The request indicates The Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama Hospital seeks to replace the existing Position Emission Tomography Imaging System, originally installed in 2013, with a new 32cm PET/CT Imaging System and the addition of four (4) uptake rooms. Please provide additional details concerning the proposed project, including whether actual gross square footage will be added and the current number of uptake rooms at the existing medical facility (Wallace Tumor, 1st Floor).

The proposed project is an interior renovation to existing space. No additional square footage will be added to the facility. Currently, the Wallace Tumor Institute has seven (7) uptake rooms for the PET/CT unit located in the basement of the institute, Room B40. The proposed project will add four (4) new uptake rooms. The renovations, including the four (4) new uptake rooms and a clean supply room, will be constructed in existing, adjacent shell space in the basement of the Wallace Tumor Institute, Room B33.

2. Please provide the Agency with the physical address for the proposed hospital renovation in Birmingham, Alabama.

The physical address for the Wallace Tumor Institute is located at 1824 6th Avenue, South, Birmingham, Alabama 35233. The tumor institute is located within the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center.

3. Please provide clarification as to the service area for the proposed project. Ala. Admin. Code r. § 410-

1-2-.03 defines the service as the county in which the service will be provided in the absence of a designated geographical area.

In accordance with Ala. Admin. Code r. § 410-1-2-.03, the health service area for the Wallace Tumor, 1st Floor project is Jefferson County.

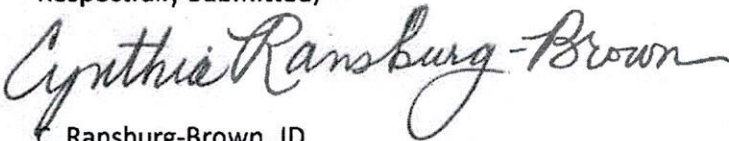
- 4. Provide a disclosure of financial interests in the entity request the reviewability determination held by any other health care facilities or groups.**

No other entity holds any financial interest in the applicant, the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama. The University of Alabama Hospital is an operating division of, and wholly owned by, the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama, an agency of the State of Alabama.

We submit this information in response to your request for additional information and respectfully request your determination that the Wallace Tumor, 1st Floor project is not subject to Certificate of Need ("CON") Review and is not required to obtain a CON.

Should you have any questions regarding the proposed project, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at cransburgbrown@uasystem.edu.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cynthia Ransburg-Brown". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

C. Ransburg-Brown, JD
University Counsel
UAB Medicine Enterprise