February 25, 2021

By Email Only

lara.szent-gyorgyi@state.ma.us

Lara Szent-Gyorgyi Director,

Determination of Need Program

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

250 Washington Street, 6th Floor

Boston, MA 02108

RE: Determination of Need (“DoN”) Application Project #21012113-AS (the “Application”) – Proposed $223,724,658 Multi-Site DoN for Three New Ambulatory Sites located in Westborough, Westwood & Woburn, each including a Freestanding Ambulatory Surgery Center with Four Operating Rooms, Physician Services and Imaging Services (CTs and MRIs) (the “Proposed Project”)

Dear Ms. Szent-Gyorgyi:

We write to you on behalf of Mass General Brigham Incorporated (the “Applicant”) to address UMass Memorial Health Care Ten Taxpayer Group’s (the “TTG”) February 18, 2021 letter claiming that the Application is defective due to its lack of compliance with 105 CMR 100.715(B)(2) (the “Regulation”), and for its failure to check that the location of the Proposed Project is within the primary service area of an independent community hospital in response to Question 7.3 of the Application. The ambulatory care locations of the Proposed Project include (i) 1400 West Park Drive, Westborough, MA 01581 (the “Westborough Site”); (ii) 100 Brigham Way, Westwood, MA 02090; and (iii) 2 Hill Street, Woburn, MA 01801, none of which are located in the primary service area of an independent community hospital.

The TTG incorrectly claims that since the Application defines the primary service area of the Westborough Site as including zip code 01757, the location of Milford Regional Medical Center, the Application is deficient because it does not document the manner in which it satisfies the Regulation. However, the applicable analysis under the Regulation is whether the Westborough Site, itself, is located in the primary service area of an independent community hospital.

The primary service area of Milford Regional Medical Center includes the following zip codes Milford (01757), Franklin (02038), Bellingham (02019), Uxbridge (01569 and 01525), Northbridge (01588), Blackstone (01504), Medway (02053), Hopedale (01747), Northbridge (01534), Hopkinton (01748), Upton (01568), Mendon (01756) and Millville (01529)[[1]](#footnote-1), and does not include 01581, the location of the Westborough Site. The Application satisfies the requirements of the Regulation and Mass General Brigham Incorporated’s response to Question 7.3 in the Application is correct.

Therefore, the Application satisfies the requirements of the Regulation.

Very truly yours,



M. Daria Niewenhous

cc: Rebecca Rodman (by email only)

rebecca.rodman@state.ma.us

1. Towns listed reflect the towns where 75% of Milford Regional Medical Center’s patient volume is derived based on 2018 inpatient discharge data published by The Commonwealth’s Center for Information Analysis. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)