May 4, 2020

Douglas Heim
Wilkes-Barre General Hospital
190 Welles St., Ste 2
Forty Fort, PA 18704
Doug@pavnephysics.com

Transmitted via email

RE: Application of Wilkes-Barre General Hospital to Continue Business Operations at its Physical Locations (Request # TSR-101)

Dear Douglas Heim:

By Executive Order dated March 19, 2020, and pursuant to powers granted to us by law, we ordered that no person or entity shall operate a place of business that is not a life-sustaining business, regardless of whether the business is open to members of the public. These orders (the “COVID-19 Orders”) are necessary to stop the spread of the novel coronavirus COVID-19. Those businesses that have been determined life-sustaining or have received an exemption from the COVID-19 Orders are authorized to operate in compliance with the applicable state law and regulatory requirements.

You submitted the attached request for a temporary suspension of certain environmental compliance requirements. The Governor has authority to suspend regulatory obligations and other legal obligations within his jurisdiction where strict compliance will prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the COVID-19 emergency. Based upon the information in your request, pursuant to the powers granted to the Governor and to prevent and control the spread of disease, it has been determined that certain compliance requirements if strictly followed, could prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the COVID-19 emergency. Based on that determination, the requested temporary suspension of calibration, testing, and inventory requirements incorporated by reference in 25 Pa. Code 215.1(e) is granted from April 23, 2020 to June 30, 2020 at the physical locations identified in your application.

This temporary suspension is subject to continuance of and compliance with the social distancing and other mitigation measures to protect employees and the public, including virtual and telework operations (e.g. work from home) as the primary option when available, which were submitted with your request and which have been established by the Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to date and going forward. In-person work at a business site is only to be performed on the most limited basis possible but in compliance with applicable laws and regulations to deliver the services or goods of life-sustaining business.

Sincerely,

TOM WOLF
Governor

RACHEL L. LEVINE, M.D.
Secretary of Health