



1600 LAIDLEY TOWER • P.O. BOX 553 • CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25322 • TELEPHONE: 304-340-1000 • TELECOPIER: 304-340-1130

www.jacksonkelly.com

Direct Dial No. (304) 340-1319  
Fax No. (304) 340-1272  
e-mail: jthomas@jacksonkelly.com

January 26, 2007

Mr. Richard W. McKinley  
Health Physicist, Medical Branch  
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety  
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region 1  
475 Allendale Road  
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406-1415

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J-3

2007 JAN 31 AM 11:23  
RECEIVED  
REGION 1

Re: Charleston Hospital, Inc. d/b/a Saint Francis Hospital  
Radioactive Materials License No. 47-17745-01  
Docket No. 03013268; Control No. 139782

Dear Mr. McKinley:

We are in receipt of your January 10, 2007, letter referencing Nuclear Regulatory Commission License No. 47-17745-01. Our responses to the inquiries contained in your letter are as follows:

(a) **Provide a complete description of the transaction (transfer of stock or assets, or merger).** Charleston Hospital, Inc. is a West Virginia corporation which has been in existence since 1994 as the licensed owner and operator of the hospital facility known as Saint Francis Hospital (SFH”) located in Charleston, West Virginia. Immediately prior to January 1, 2007, the stock of Charleston Hospital, Inc. (“CHI”) was wholly owned by LifePoint WV Holdings, Inc. The Herbert J. Thomas Memorial Hospital Association (“TMH”), another West Virginia corporation that holds the license to operate Thomas Memorial Hospital located in South Charleston, West Virginia, acquired 100% of the stock of CHI effective January 1, 2007. CHI remains the licensed owner and operator of SFH. On January 2, 2007, the Articles of Incorporation of CHI were amended to make it a non-stock, non-profit entity going forward. Instead of being the sole stockholder, TMH is now the sole member of CHI. However, CHI continues to exist as a West Virginia corporation, and retains the same federal employer identification number. CHI was **not** merged into any other corporate entity.

(b) **Indicate whether the name has changed and include the new name. Include the name and telephone number of a licensee contact who NRC may contact if more information is needed.** There has been no name change. In fact, the Chief Executive Officer of SFH prior to January 1, 2007, remains the Chief Executive Officer today. His contact

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information is Daniel Lauffer, Chief Executive Officer, 333 Laidley Street, Post Office Box 471, Charleston, West Virginia 25322, telephone (304)347-6872.

(c) **Describe any changes in personnel or duties that relate to the licensed program. Include training and experience for any new personnel.** There have been no changes in personnel or duties relating to the licensed program as a result of the stock acquisition described above. CHI remains responsible for complying with the requirements of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

(d) **Describe any changes in organization, location, facilities, equipment or procedures that relate to the licensed program.** There have been no changes in the organization, location, facilities, equipment, or procedures that relate to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission License No. 47-17745-01. The licensed owner and operator of the facility remains CHI. It continues to be operated under the overall direction and supervision of its Board of Directors and Officers. We do not view the Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation rendering it a non-stock, non-profit entity as having any impact upon SFH's ability to comply with Nuclear Regulatory Commission Standards and requirements.

(e) **Describe the status of the surveillance program (surveys, wipe tests, quality control) at the present time and the expected status at the time that control is to be transferred.** The surveillance program prescribed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission continues to exist and function without change as a result of the stock acquisition described above. CHI was and continues to remain responsible for the surveillance program.

(f) **Confirm that all records concerning the safe and effective decommissioning of the facility will be transferred to the transferee or to NRC, as appropriate. These records include documentation of surveys of ambient radiation levels and fixed and/or removable contamination, including methods and sensitivity.** We do not believe that any transfer of records need occur as a result of the stock acquisition described above. All records concerning the operation of SFH, including its compliance with Nuclear Regulatory Commission standards, remain the property of CHI, and in its possession and control.

(g) **Confirm that the transferee will abide by all constraints, conditions, requirements and commitments of the transferor or that the transferee will submit a complete description of the proposed licensed program.** Again, it does not appear that a transferor/transferee analysis applies in this instance. CHI remains the licensed owner and operator of SFH. The acquisition described above did not alter the policies, procedures, or programs of CHI insofar as Nuclear Regulatory Commission License No. 47-17745-01 is concerned. Compliance with Nuclear Regulatory Commission standards and requirements remains the obligation of CHI.

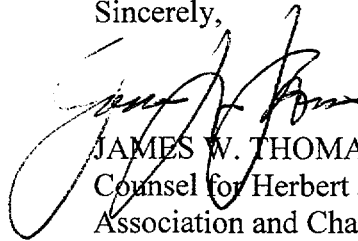
We hope that we have responded fully to your questions. It is the intention of both Charleston Hospital, Inc. d/b/a Saint Francis Hospital, as well as the Herbert J. Thomas {C1166019.1}

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Memorial Hospital Association, to comply fully with any requirements related to Nuclear Regulatory Commission License No. 47-17745-01. Should you determine that any additional filing or other action needs to be taken with respect to this license, please advise immediately, and we will be happy to take any and all appropriate and necessary action.

You may call me at (304)340-1319 at your convenience regarding any aspect of this letter.

Sincerely,



JAMES W. THOMAS  
Counsel for Herbert J. Thomas Memorial Hospital  
Association and Charleston Hospital, Inc. d/b/a  
Saint Francis Hospital

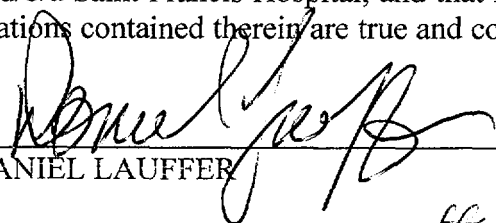
JWT/dgc

**VERIFICATION**

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,

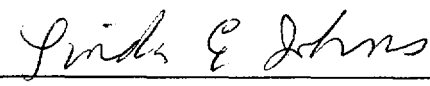
COUNTY OF KANAWHA, To-Wit:

Daniel Lauffer, being by me first duly sworn, upon his oath, says that he is Chief Executive Officer of Charleston Hospital, Inc. d/b/a Saint Francis Hospital, and that he has read the foregoing letter, and that the facts and allegations contained therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DANIEL LAUFFER

Taken, subscribed and sworn to before me by Daniel S. Lauffer this 29th day of January, 2007.

My commission expires March 27, 2011.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

(SEAL)

