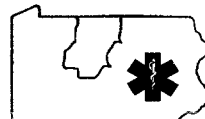


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EMMCO EAST

REGIONAL EMS COUNCIL



RECEIVED
IRRC

A non-profit Emergency Medical Services Organization Serving the Counties of Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean & Potter

August 12, 2013

Independent Regulatory Review Commission
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear IRRC Commissioners;

We represent EMMCO East, Inc. and wish to comment on the following regulation being considered by the IRRC:

Regulation: Department of Health – Emergency Medical Services System
Regulation Number: #10-190 (IRRC #2917)
Date of Hearing: Thursday, August 22, 2013
Time: 10:00 a.m.

EMMCO East Regional EMS Council is a non-profit emergency medical services organization serving the counties of Elk, Cameron, Clearfield, Jefferson, McKean and Potter. Our mission is to develop trained EMS leadership and service personnel that support a quality emergency health care system within every service area of the region, while acting as a resource to the Pennsylvania Department of Health Bureau of EMS in carrying out the EMS Act, the Comprehensive Regional EMS Development Plan and DOH regulations and policies.

The EMMCO East Region is defined as rural with the majority of EMS agencies being staffed volunteer providers. The career EMS agencies are located in the population centers of the region and provide advance life support to the neighboring BLS agencies. EMMCO East understands the challenges of providing EMS care in the rural EMS system.

EMMCO East supports the approval of the EMS system rules and regulations, as they are presented in their final draft form before the IRRC commissioners. Pennsylvania's EMS system reached a major milestone in 2009 with the adoption of Act 37. The approval of the proposed rules and regulations before the committee is the next achievement that will allow the full implementation of Act 37 and move Pennsylvania's EMS system in to the future.

The EMS agencies and providers had several opportunities to provide input through town-hall style meetings with the Director of the Bureau of EMS on both Act 37 and the proposed rules and regulations. These meetings were held in the EMMCO East region to ensure an opportunity for all EMS providers and agencies to share their opinion.

On behalf of EMMCO East, we respectfully recommend that the IRRC Commissioners approve the Pennsylvania Department of Health – EMS System Regulations #10-190 (IRRC #2917)

Respectfully,

Michael McAllister
Chairman
EMMCO East, Inc.

John Weidow
Executive Director
EMMCO East, Inc.