

North Carolina Biotechnology Center

Offices in Asheville | Charlotte | Greenville | Research Triangle Park | Wilmington | Winston-Salem

January 27, 2020

Andy Miracle, Economic Development Officer
201 E. Main Street
Durham, NC 27701

Dear Mr. Miracle,

The North Carolina Biotechnology Center has appreciated its longstanding partnership with Durham County to leverage the life sciences in growing community jobs and investment. One of the programs that assists in our ability to attract new life science jobs is the Biotech Center's Economic Development Award (EDA). A recipient of the EDA now located in Durham is Aurobindo Pharma.

Aurobindo has recently requested an additional three years to achieve their hiring requirements as outlined in the attached EDA Grant Agreement and Amendment. If approved, the new Jobs End Date (JED) will be April 26, 2022. The terms updated to accommodate this request are outlined in "Amendment #1" (attached).

This extension is requested in light of construction and permitting setbacks Aurobindo faced during the build out of its new Durham facility and delays in obtaining environmental permits from the EPA. Together, these permitting delays pushed the start of construction into year 2 of the agreement. Additionally, the Company has struggled to find qualified employees in the current job market due to record low unemployment rates and the competition for local talent. All of the above has contributed to the Company's inability to onboard at the initially anticipated rate, which has recently started to improve.

Since August 2017, Aurobindo has been steadily hiring and has on-boarded more than 50 new employees. We believe Aurobindo remains committed to its growth in Durham as demonstrated by the engagement of recruitment agencies, NCWorks, LinkedIn, and other resources to achieve its hiring goals of 180 new employees by April 2022.

Additionally, the amended grant agreement includes a commitment from Aurobindo to use a portion of its EDA grant to support three college level interns at their Durham site to strengthen their connectivity with the local community.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your continued commitment to growing life sciences jobs in North Carolina.

Sincerely,



William O. Bullock
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