



Office of Health Care Access Certificate of Need Application

Final Decision

Applicant: Bridgeport Hospital

Docket Number: 03-30052-WVR

Project Title: Request to Waive CON Requirements for Replacement CT Scanner in Accordance with Section 19a-639c, C.G.S.

Statutory Reference: Section 19a-639c of the Connecticut General Statutes

Filing Date: April 11, 2003

Hearing: Waived

Decision Date: April 22, 2003

Staff: Paolo Fiducia

Project Description: Bridgeport Hospital (“Hospital”) proposes to replace its existing 9800 HiLight Advantage CT Scanning System with a GE Medical Systems GoldSeal Light Speed Ultra CT Scanner at a total capital cost of \$931,169.

Nature of Proceedings: On April 11, 2003, the Office of Health Care Access (“OHCA”) received the Certificate of Need (“CON”) waiver request application of Bridgeport Hospital for the replacement of its existing CT Scanner at 267 Grant Street in Bridgeport, Connecticut at a total capital cost of \$931,169. The Hospital is a health care facility or institution as defined in Section 19a-630 of the Connecticut General Statutes (“C.G.S.”).

OHCA’s authority to review and approve, modify or deny the CON application is established by Section 19a-639c, C.G.S. The provisions of this section as well as the principles and guidelines set forth in Section 19a-637, C.G.S., were fully considered by OHCA in its review.

Findings of Fact

Each finding of fact included in this Final Decision has been taken from the CON waiver application and related CON filings. A source reference is included with each finding of fact. All CON applicants must attest to the accuracy and correctness of the information submitted to OHCA as part of the CON application process.

1. On August 20, 1992, under Docket Number 92-533, Park City Hospital acquired a 9800 HiLight Advantage CT Scanning System at a total capital cost of \$879,000. *(August 20, 1992, Final Decision, Page 5)*
2. On March 29 1995, under Docket Number 94-545R, Bridgeport Hospital acquired through a transfer of equipment from Park City Hospital a CT 9800 HiLight Advantage CT Scanning System. *(April 11, 2003, Letter of Intent/Waiver Form 2030, Page 8)*
3. Bridgeport Hospital (“Hospital”) is proposing to replace the existing 9800 HiLight Advantage CT Scanning System located at 267 Grant Street in Bridgeport, Connecticut with a GE Medical Systems GoldSeal Light Speed Ultra CT Scanner. *(April 11, 2003, Letter of Intent/Waiver Form 2030, Page 8)*
4. The projected capital expenditure for the proposed replacement CT Scanner unit is \$931,169. *(April 11, 2003, Letter of Intent/Waiver Form 2030, Page 3)*
5. The cost of \$931,169 is below the \$2,000,000 threshold for determining eligibility for waiver of the CON process pursuant to Section 19a-639c of the Connecticut General Statutes (“C.G.S.”). *(April 11, 2003, Letter of Intent/Waiver Form 2030, Page 5)*
6. The proposed expenditure for the proposed replacement CT Scanner unit is not more than the original cost, plus an increase of ten percent for each twelve-month period that has elapsed since August 20, 1992. *(April 11, 2003, Letter of Intent/Waiver Form 2030, Page 5)*
7. The replacement equipment will serve an existing population with a similar payer mix. *(April 11, 2003, Letter of Intent/Waiver Form 2030, Page 8)*
8. The Hospital plans to fund the proposed replacement using lease financing. *(April 11, 2003, Letter of Intent/Waiver Form 2030, Page 4)*

Rationale

Bridgeport Hospital (“Hospital”), located at 267 Grant Street in Bridgeport, Connecticut, is proposing to replace the existing 9800 HiLight Advantage CT Scanning System with a GE Medical Systems GoldSeal Light Speed Ultra CT Scanner.

The projected capital expenditure for the proposed replacement CT Scanner unit is \$931,169. The cost of \$931,169 is below the \$2,000,000 threshold for determining eligibility for waiver of the CON process pursuant to Section 19a-639c of the Connecticut General Statutes (“C.G.S.”). The proposed expenditure for the replacement CT Scanner unit is not more than the original cost, plus an increase of ten percent for each twelve-month period that has elapsed since May 21, 1992.

Based on the foregoing Findings and Rationale, the Certificate of Need application of Bridgeport Hospital to replace its existing CT Scanner unit, at a total capital cost of \$931,169, is hereby GRANTED.

Order

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined that Bridgeport Hospital's proposal to replace its existing 9800 HiLight Advantage CT Scanning System with a GE Medical Systems GoldSeal Light Speed Ultra CT Scanner meets the requirements for waiver of the CON process pursuant to Section 19a-639c, C.G.S. Therefore, Bridgeport Hospital's proposal to replace the CT Scanner at a capital cost of \$931,169 is approved and a Certificate of Need is GRANTED.

1. This authorization shall expire on October 20, 2003. Should the replacement not be completed by that date, the Hospital must seek further approval from OHCA to complete the replacement beyond that date.
2. The Hospital shall not exceed the approved capital expenditure of \$931,169. In the event that the Hospital learns of potential cost increases or expects that the final project costs will exceed those approved, the Hospital shall file with OHCA a request for approval of the revised replacement budget.
3. The Hospital is required to notify OHCA as to the date of replacement and termination of the use of the existing CT scanner unit.

All of the foregoing constitutes the final order of the Office of Health Care Access in this matter.

By Order of the
Office of Health Care Access

Date signed:
April 22, 2003

Signed by:
Mary M. Heffernan
Commissioner

MMH:pf