



Office of Health Care Access

Modification of Previously Authorized Certificate of Need

Final Decision

Applicant: The Charlotte Hungerford Hospital

Modification Docket Number: 07-30657-MD2

Modification Project Title: A request to modify a previous Certificate of Need authorization to extend the CON expiration date.

Original Project Docket Number and Title Docket Number 05-30657-WVR;
The acquisition of a replacement CT scanner at a total capital expenditure of \$1,340,000.

Statutory Reference: Sections 4-181a(b), Connecticut General Statutes

Filing Date: July 3, 2007

Decision Date: July 11, 2007

Staff Karen Roberts

Project Description: The Charlotte Hungerford Hospital proposes a modification of the Certificate of Need ("CON") authorization under Docket Number 05-30657-WVR in order to further extend the CON expiration date to August 1, 2007.

Findings of Fact

1. On February 28, 2006, under Docket Number 05-30657-WVR, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") issued a Certificate of Need ("CON") to The Charlotte Hungerford Hospital ("Hospital") to replace its existing General Electric Hispeed Advantage RP Computed Tomography ("CT") Scanner located at 540 Litchfield Street in Torrington, at a total capital expenditure of \$1,340,000, pursuant to Section 19a-639c of the Connecticut General Statutes. (*CON decision under Docket Number 05-30657-CON*)

2. On March 2, 2007, under Docket Number 07-30657-MDF, OHCA granted a modification of this CON authorization in order to extend the CON expiration date. Condition #1 of the modified CON states the following:

“1. This authorization shall expire on August 1, 2007. Should the Hospital’s CT Scanning Equipment replacement project not be completed by that date, the Hospital must seek further approval from OHCA to complete the project beyond that date.”
3. On July 3, 2007, the Hospital filed a further request to extend the CON expiration date, from August 1, 2007¹ to October 19, 2007. (*Page 3 of July 3, 2007 modification request*)
4. The Hospital indicates that *“due to a delay in the fabrication and delivery of welded, steel framed doors, installation of the Hospital’s replacement CT Scanner will not be complete”* by the CON expiration date. The Hospital indicates that the renovation of the site is currently in process and that they have completed the coordination and scheduling of contractors for immediate installation of equipment upon delivery of doors. (*Cover page and pages 3-4 of the July 3, 2007 modification request*)

Discussion

OHCA has reviewed this request for a modification to a previously authorized CON and finds that the relationship of the CON authorized under Docket Number 05-30657-WVR, is not significantly altered by this request for a modification under Docket Number 07-30657-MD2. It appears to be the Hospital’s intent to move forward with the project as reviewed and authorized by OHCA, despite this minor time delay.

Order

Based on the above, OHCA hereby grants a modification of the CON authorized under Docket Number 06-30657-WVR. Condition Number One of the Certificate of Need Order under Docket Number 05-30657-WVR is modified to state the following:

1. This authorization shall expire on October 19, 2007. Should the Hospital’s CT Scanning Equipment replacement project not be completed by that date, the Hospital must seek further approval from OHCA to complete the project beyond that date.

All other conditions set forth in the final decision issued under Docket Number 05-30657-WVR not modified herein, will remain in full effect.

¹ The Hospital’s July 3, 2007 modification request specifically requests an extension from February 28, 2007 to October 19, 2007; however, OHCA has already granted a time extension under DN 07-30657-MDF from February 28, 2007 to August 1, 2007. The current expiration date is therefore August 1, 2007.

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

Signed by Commissioner Vogel on July 11, 2007

Date

Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

CAV/kr