



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR
November 16, 2004

CRISTINE A. VOGEL
COMMISSIONER

Mark Tallo
Legal Council
Office of Public Health Preparedness
Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06134

RE: Certificate of Need Determination; Report Number 04-30398-DTR
State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health
Establishment of a Mobile 100 Bed Acute Care Hospital

Dear Mr. Tallo:

On November 12, 2004, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received your CON Determination request on behalf of State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health for the establishment of a mobile 100 bed acute care hospital to be stored on the grounds of Camp Rell in Niantic, Connecticut, at an approximate cost of \$8,000,000.

OHCA has reviewed the information contained in the request and makes the following findings:

1. Department of Public Health ("DPH") is a State of Connecticut Agency located at 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford Connecticut.
2. The State of Connecticut is required to develop and implement a surge capacity plan that could accommodate at least 1,700 patients statewide under the Center for Disease Control Public Health Preparedness and Response for Bioterrorism grant.
3. Consequently, DPH as part of its preparedness planning activities, Connecticut was required by Health and Human Services to identify a "Type C" isolation facility where smallpox patients would be treated if it became necessary.
4. DPH proposes to purchase, equip and operate a 100 bed mobile hospital to enhance the state's surge capacity during an unanticipated emergency event or infectious disease outbreak.

5. The proposed mobile hospital will have 30 intensive care, 10 step-down and 60 acute and ambulatory beds. The facility will also have the capacity to be deployed in 25 bed increments to provide triage and treatment anywhere in the state in the event of a mass casualty, to support an acute care hospital after catastrophic structural/mechanical failure or to support a mass gathering event.
6. The services to be offered will depend on the needed use of the facility. The facility could support infectious disease outbreak by providing services comparable to those in any acute care hospital or provide triage and treatment in the event of a mass casualty event or support a mass gathering event.
7. The proposed mobile facility components will be stored on the grounds of Camp Rell in Niantic, Connecticut.
8. The proposed mobile facility is intended to serve the entire State of Connecticut.
9. The total approximate cost of the proposed mobile facility is \$8,000,000. Of the amount approximately \$3,000,000 will be use for the purchase of medical equipment and the remaining amount of approximately of \$5,000,000 will be used for the purchase of non-medical equipment.
10. Pursuant to Section 19a-630, C.G.S. (“Connecticut General Statutes”) a State health care facility is defined as “a hospital or other such facility or institution operated by the state providing services which are eligible for reimbursement under Title XVIII or XIX of the federal Social Security Act.”
11. Pursuant to Section 19a-638 of the Connecticut General Statutes (“C.G.S.”), the Office of Health Care Access (“OHCA”) may hold a hearing whenever a health care facility or institution proposes to introduce a new or additional function or service, or terminate a service.
12. Pursuant to Section 19a-639, C.G.S., OHCA is required to hold a hearing whenever any health care facility or institution proposes a capital expenditure exceeding one million dollars, the acquisition of major medical equipment having a cost exceeding four hundred thousand dollars, including the leasing of equipment or a facility, or whenever any person proposes a capital expenditure to acquire imaging equipment having a cost exceeding four hundred thousand dollars, including the leasing of such equipment.

According to the above definitions, the Department of Public Health (“DPH”) is a state health care facility for certificate of need purposes. Further, your request to establish a mobile 100 bed acute care hospital involves establishment of a new service, as well as a capital expenditure over \$1,000,000, therefore, pursuant to Sections 19a-638 and 19a-639 C.G.S. a certificate of need is required for your proposal. A CON application will be mailed to your attention under a separate cover..

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact Steven Lazarus, Associate Health Care Analyst at (860) 418-7012.

An Equal Opportunity Employer
410 Capitol Ave., MS#13HCA, P.O.Box 340308, Hartford, CT 06134-0308
Telephone: (860) 418-7001 Toll-Free: 1-800-797-9688
Fax: (860) 418-7053

Sincerely,

Signed by Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

CAV:sl

Copy: Sandra C. Bauer, Division of Community Based Regulation, DPH