

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

CRISTINE A. VOGEL
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2009

IN THE MATTER OF:

A modification of a previous Certificate of
Need authorization as allowed by
Section 4-181a(b), Connecticut General Statutes

Notice of Modification Final Decision
Office of Health Care Access
Docket Number 09-31057-MDF

Greenwich Hospital

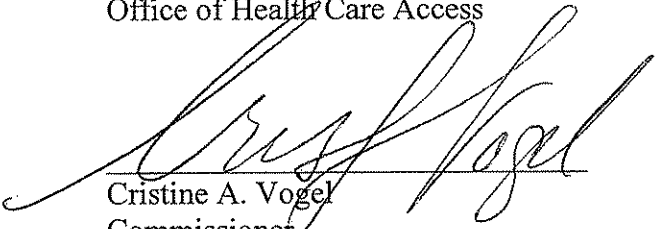
A request to modify Docket Number
07-31057-CON in order to extend the
CON expiration date by one year

To: Ms. Nancy Hamson
Director of Planning
Greenwich Hospital
5 Perryridge Road
Greenwich, CT 06830

Dear Ms. Hamson:

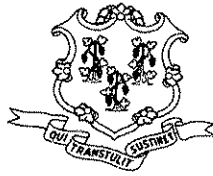
This letter will serve as notice of the Final Decision of the Office of Health Care Access in the above matter as provided by Section 4-181a(b), C.G.S. On June 4, 2009, this Modification was rendered as the revised order of the Office of Health Care Access. A copy of the Final Decision is attached hereto for your information.

By Order of the
Office of Health Care Access



Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

CAV:kr



Office of Health Care Access

A Request for Modification of a Previously Authorized Certificate of Need

Applicant: Greenwich Hospital

Modification Docket Number: 09-31057-MDF

Modification Project Description: A request to modify a previous Certificate of Need authorization in order to extend the CON expiration date by one year to December 1, 2010

Original Project Docket Numbers and Title: Docket Number 07-31057-CON: The establishment of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy Services

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

Filing Date: June 2, 2009

Decision Date: June 4, 2009

Staff: Karen Roberts

Project Description: Greenwich Hospital requests a modification of the Certificate of Need ("CON") authorization issued under Docket Number 07-31057-CON in order to extend the CON expiration date by one year, from December 1, 2009 to December 1, 2010. The CON under Docket Number 07-31057-CON authorized Greenwich Hospital to establish an outpatient hyperbaric oxygen therapy service at a total capital expenditure of \$649,798.

Findings of Fact

1. On August 7, 2008, under Docket Number 07-31057-CON, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") granted a Certificate of Need ("CON") to Greenwich Hospital ("Hospital") to establish an outpatient hyperbaric oxygen therapy service at a total capital expenditure of \$649,798, pursuant to Section 19a-638 of the Connecticut General Statutes. Condition #1 of the CON Order states the following:

1. *"1. This authorization shall expire on December 1, 2009. Should the Hospital's project not be completed by that date, the Hospital must seek further approval from OHCA to complete the project beyond that date."*
2. On May 11, 2009, OHCA received a request from the Hospital to extend the expiration date set forth in Condition #1 from December 1, 2009 to December 1, 2010. The Hospital has stated the following regarding its rationale for this proposed modification:
 - a. *"Greenwich Hospital, similar to other hospitals in Connecticut and elsewhere, is affected by the downturn of the economy and the uncertainty of a timeframe for when the economy will recover."*
 - b. *"It was felt that the Hospital should request a one year time extension in order to give time for economic stability to return or at least for the economy to show signs of recovery and enable the Hospital to move forward on the project."*
 - c. *"It was felt that a prudent course of action would be to delay implementation of the project at this time in order to preserve the Hospital's financial resources."*
 - d. *"The reasoning is related to the project as a whole which encompasses both capital expenditures and operating expenses."*
3. The Applicant indicates that, to date, the following has been completed:
 - a. \$79,000 of the authorized total of \$649,798 has been incurred;
 - b. Construction design plans have been completed;
 - c. Vendor negotiations have been completed; and
 - d. Space has been partially vacated in preparation of construction.
4. This request for a modification does not alter the authorized capital expenditure for the project nor the intended scope of the project. Finding of Fact #22 of the CON decision under Docket Number 07-31057-CON states that the project would be funded through the Hospital's equity from funded depreciation.
5. At this time, Greenwich Hospital has not put a down payment on the hyperbaric oxygen therapy equipment.

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 07-31057-CON to Section 19a-637, C.G.S. is not altered by this request for a modification under Docket Number 09-31057-MDF. The Hospital requests that the project be put on hold due to current economic conditions and the Hospital's determination, in light of the economy downturn, it should preserve its financial resources at this time. The requested modification of this CON Order appears to be the result of conditions unanticipated by the Hospital at the time of the initial CON filing. This request for a modification of Condition #1 of the CON to allow one additional year for full implementation of the project appears reasonable and appropriate.

Order

Based on the above discussion and the reasons provided in the Hospital's modification request, OHCA hereby grants the request and allows a modification of the CON Order under Docket Number 07-31057-CON. Condition # 1 of the CON Order under Docket Number 07-31057-CON is modified as follows:

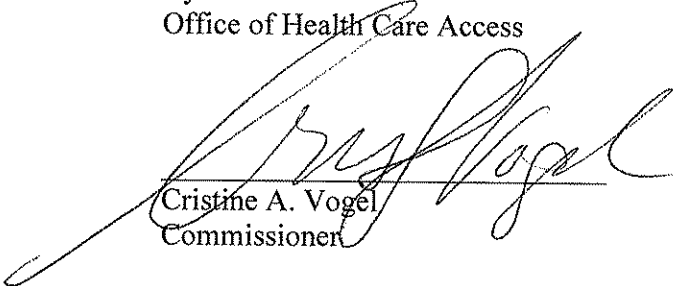
1. This authorization shall expire on December 1, 2010. Should the Hospital's project not be completed by that date, the Hospital must seek further approval from OHCA to complete the project beyond that date.

All other conditions set forth in the CON authorization issued under Docket Number 07-31057-CON, not further modified herein, will remain in full effect.

By Order of the
Office of Health Care Access

Date

6-4-09


Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

CAV/kr