

State of Connecticut Department of Public Health Office of Health Care Access

Modification of a Previously Authorized Certificate of Need

Applicant:

Bridgeport Hospital

Docket Number:

11-30352-MDF

Project Description:

A request to modify a previous Certificate of Need authorization in order to change the CT Scanner Model

Procedural History: On March 21, 2005, under Docket Number 04-30352-CON, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") granted a Certificate of Need ("CON") to Bridgeport Hospital ("Hospital") to renovate its Emergency Department ("ED") and to acquire a second computed tomography ("CT") scanner for the ED, at a total proposed capital expenditure of \$16,000,000. On November 30, 2007, OHCA modified the original decision under Docket Number 07-30352-MDF to increase the authorized capital costs for the project by \$2,064,589, from \$16,000,000 to \$18,064,589, including an upgrade in the authorized but not yet acquired CT scanner, from a 16-slice unit to a 64-slice unit. On March 10, 2009, OHCA extended the CON expiration date from March 21, 2009 until September 30, 2011 under Docket Number 09-30352-MDF.

Findings of Fact

- 1. Conditions #2 and #3 of the decision under Docket Number 07-30352-MDF state the following:
 - 2. The Hospital shall acquire a second CT scanner to be located in the ED at a capital cost not to exceed \$1,393,031, representing the fair market value of the leased equipment.
 - 3. The Hospital shall not exceed the approved capital cost of \$18,064,589, which includes \$1,393,031 for the fair market value of leased equipment. 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 CON project budget.

- 2. Although the order under Docket Number 07-30352 did not specify the model of CT scanner, the findings reference the 64-slice General Electric Light Speed VCT XT unit that the hospital intended to acquire at that time.
- 3. The Hospital is now requesting a modification of the CON to acquire a 16-slice CT scanner, as originally proposed, instead of a 64-slice model.
- 4. The purchase price for the 16-slice scanner is approximately \$498,442.00, which is significantly less than the 64-slice model authorized under Docket Number 07-30352-MDF.
- 5. The ED expansion and renovations were completed in 2007 and the acquisition of the CT scanner is the final component of the project.
- 6. The Hospital will purchase the CT scanner through a capital lease and it will be installed prior to the September 30, 2011 deadline.

Discussion

OHCA has reviewed this request for a modification to a previously authorized CON and finds the CON authorized under Docket Number 04-30352-CON is not significantly altered by this request for a modification. Additionally, the modification proposal does not alter the intended scope or timeframe for the project and will actually reduce the overall capital expenditure. Accordingly, OHCA finds that the request to acquire a 16-slice CT scanner instead of a 64-slice CT scanner is reasonable.

Order

Based upon the foregoing, OHCA hereby **Grants** the request and allows a modification of the CON Order under Docket Number 07-30352-MDF. Condition #2 of the order under Docket Number 07-30352-MDF is hereby modified as follows:

2. The Hospital shall acquire a second CT scanner to be located in the Emergency Department.

Condition #3 of the order under Docket Number 07-30352-MDF is hereby vacated.

Condition #1 as modified under Docket Number 09-30352-MDF will remain in full effect.

By Order of the

Department of Public Health Office of Health Care Access

Jeannette B. DeJesús, MPA, MSW

Deputy Commissioner

5/2/2011