



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL
COMMISSIONER

March 6, 2006

Colleen Scott
Chief Financial Officer
Waterbury Hospital
64 Robbins Street
Waterbury, CT 06721

RE: Waterbury Hospital
CON Exemption Request; Determination Report Number: 06-30702-EXM
Pursuant to P.A. 05-168, which amends Section 19a-639a of the C.G.S.
Proposal to Acquire and Install a Picture Archiving Communications System

Dear Ms. Scott:

On March 3, 2006, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received your Certificate of Need ("CON") Determination request to acquire and install a picture archiving communications systems, pursuant to Public Act 05-168, which amends Section 19a-639a of the Connecticut General Statutes ("C.G.S.").

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

1. Waterbury Hospital ("Hospital") is an acute care, general hospital located at 64 Robbins Street in Waterbury, Connecticut.
2. The Hospital is a health care facility or institution as defined by Section 19a-630 of the Connecticut General Statutes ("C.G.S.").
3. A picture archiving communications system ("PACS") is a medical image management system designed to store, retrieve, distribute and display medical images in a digital format.
4. The Hospital is proposing to acquire and install a PACS and voice recognition system to expand the Hospital's capabilities as part of its initiatives to develop an electronic medical records system.

5. The PACS will serve the needs of the enterprise-wide Greater Waterbury Health Network, of which the Hospital is a subsidiary. The PACS will be shared amongst the Hospital and its affiliated entities.
6. The affiliated entities that are a part of this collaborative proposal include the following:
 - Greater Waterbury Imaging Center;
 - Imaging Partners;
 - Valley Imaging Partners; and
 - Diagnostic Radiology Associates
7. Public Act: 05-168 amends Section 19a-639a of the C.G.S. by adding subsection (c) which reads as follows:

“The Office of Health Care Access shall, in its discretion; exempt from certificate of need review pursuant to sections 19a-638 and 19a-639 any health care facility or institution that proposes to purchase or operate an electronic medical records system on or after October 1, 2005.”
8. The project will result in no change or impact to the Hospital’s patient population or payments from third party payers.
9. The total capital expenditure for the acquisition and installation of the PACS is \$1,600,766, which will be borne by the Hospital and its affiliates as follows:
 - \$938,138 as the attributable Hospital expenditure; and
 - \$662,628 as the aggregate expenditure attributable to the Hospital’s affiliates.
10. The Hospital proposes to fund its portion of the proposed capital expenditure through its operating funds.
11. The Hospital anticipates starting the project in April 2006 and completing the project phase-in within a six month period.

Based on these findings, OHCA has determined that the Hospital’s proposal meets the requirements of Public Act: 05-168, which amends Section 19a-639a of the Connecticut General Statutes and that Certificate of Need approval is not required for Waterbury Hospital to acquire and install a picture archiving communications system. Therefore, it will not be necessary for you to obtain further permission from OHCA in order to proceed with the proposed acquisition.

Thank you for keeping OHCA informed of your plans regarding this proposal. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Jack A. Huber, OHCA Health Care Analyst. He may be reached at (860) 418-7034.

Sincerely,

Signed by Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

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