

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Office of Health Care Access

December 9, 2011

VIA FACSIMILE ONLY

Janette Polaski, MPH, MBA
Manager, Community Benefit
The William W. Backus Hospital
326 Washington Street
Norwich, CT 06360

RE: Certificate of Need, Report No.: 11-31728-DTR
The William W. Backus Hospital
Decommissioning a Computed Tomography Scanner located at the Backus Health
Center-Colchester

Dear Ms. Polaski:

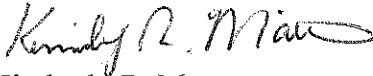
On October 12, 2011, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received your determination request on behalf of The William W. Backus Hospital ("Hospital"), with respect to whether a Certificate of Need ("CON") is required for the Hospital to decommission a Computed Tomography ("CT") scanner currently located at its Backus Health Center-Colchester ("BHCC") location.

The CT Scanner proposed for decommissioning was acquired by the Hospital through an OHCA CON Determination (Report No.: 03-30179-DTR) in 2003. Since 2006, the proposed CT scanner has experienced a steady annual decline in utilization. Between FY 2010 and FY 2011, the proposed CT scanner's utilization dropped 41%. Although the Hospital is decommissioning the proposed CT scanner at this location, it continues to provide CT scanning services utilizing higher quality CT scanners (a total of three) in close proximity to BHCC in Norwich. The CT scanners are located on the Hospital's main campus and at its Backus Outpatient Care Center. Both locations are approximately a 15-20 minute drive from BHCC and have available capacity to absorb the low number of scans performed annually at BHCC (approximately 300 in FY 2011).

Based upon the foregoing, OHCA concludes that a CON is not required for the Hospital to decommission the CT scanner located at BHCC. Pursuant to General Statutes § 19a-638 (a) (9) a CON is only required for the acquisition of a CT scanner.

Thank you for informing OHCA of your plans and if you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Steven W. Lazarus, Associate Health Care Analyst at (860) 418-7012.

Sincerely,



Kimberly R. Martone
Director of Operations, OHCA

C: Rose McLellan, License and Applications Supervisor, DPH, DHSR