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Ms. Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and services Board
525 W. Jefferson Street – Second Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

April 8, 2011

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am the Cuba township supervisor. I oppose the construction of the Centegra hospital in Huntley.

The benefits of this project are limited. Some communities might have a slightly shorter commute to a hospital. The proposed hospital does not bring any new services.

The costs are tremendous. The construction cost is over \$200 M. Half of the cost will be borne by all of us as taxpayers. The other half will be borne by employers paying much of the premium costs as well as individual premium payers.

I understand that the project is being "sold" to the community on the basis of providing jobs. Should we really be making important health care decisions based on providing jobs?

I am also concerned about the cost to our existing hospitals. Taking volume from area hospitals will damage hospitals such as Good Shepherd, Sherman, St. Alexius and Centegra's own hospitals in Woodstock and McHenry. With reduced volume, I am concerned that the existing hospitals will not have adequate patient volume to provide high quality cost effective care. Also, the existing area hospitals provide charity care and community benefit services. I wonder how the hospital will be able to fund the services for indigent and community if the hospitals are operating on only razor thin financial margins due to reduced volumes.

In closing, I believe that the cost far outweighs the benefit of building a new hospital in Huntley and the certificate of need should be denied.

Sincerely,



David Nelson

Supervisor Cuba Township

CC: Senator Dan Duffy

Representative Mark Beaubien