



3224 S. Park Avenue
Herrin, IL 62948
618.351.4980
Fax: 618.993.8418

March 11, 2013

Ms. Courtney R. Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

RE: SIH Cancer Center, Project #13-005

Dear Ms. Avery,

I wanted communicate my support and endorsement of Southern Illinois Healthcare's ambitious effort to build a comprehensive, freestanding cancer center to serve patients throughout the seven southernmost counties of rural southern Illinois. As you know, this area is underserved in many ways, particularly in regards to cancer care. This area has some of the highest cancer rates in the state.

With the building of a comprehensive cancer center in southern Illinois, patients battling cancer will not have to travel as far for outstanding treatment. The SIH Cancer Center will be able to provide this full continuum of care in one location. These vital services will include radiation therapy, chemotherapy, multidisciplinary teams for breast, lung, gastrointestinal, genitourinary, and head and neck cancers. It will also include the ability to participate in clinical trials via its academic affiliation with the Simmons Cancer Institute at the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. Furthermore, rehabilitation care will be provided via an affiliation with the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago.

Many of the patients who will ultimately receive care at the SIH Cancer Center are among our state's most vulnerable---elderly, low-income, and uninsured. In fact, all seven of the counties in SIH's service area are federally designated as "Health Professional Shortage Area(s) for Primary Medical Care."

I wholeheartedly support SIH's mission, values, and commitment to bring this caliber of cancer care to southern Illinois. Thank you for your time and attention to this project.

Respectfully,

Brent M. Newell, MD
Physiatrist
RIC/SIH Rehabilitation Services
3224 S. Park Ave.
Herrin, IL 62948

March 1, 2013

Ms. Courtney R. Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: SIH Cancer Center, Project #13-005

Dear Ms. Avery,

As a Thoracic Surgeon, I see many patients with lung cancer who require multidisciplinary care. Please accept this letter as my wholehearted endorsement—without reservation—for Southern Illinois Healthcare's commitment to build and operate a freestanding cancer center in the heart of southern Illinois.

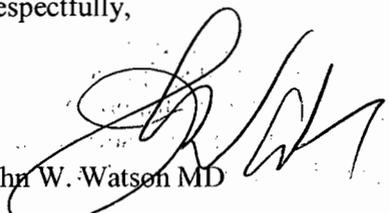
For cancer patients in this region, the road to recovery is often the road itself. Patients often need to make frequent trips to a major metropolitan area outside of Illinois. Doctors estimate that a cancer patient could log up to 100 trips to and from their appointments, infusions and hospitalizations in the first year of care alone. Not only is this road to recovery expensive, it is exhaustive mentally, physically and emotionally for the patient, their friends and family.

Not so the case anymore. With SIH's vision, cancer patients from throughout a seven county area of rural southern Illinois can receive streamlined care under one roof, centrally located along the Route 13 corridor. Medical oncology, radiation oncology, imaging, testing, infusion services, support, rehabilitation and recovery—just to name a few—will not be separated by miles, but by a few steps.

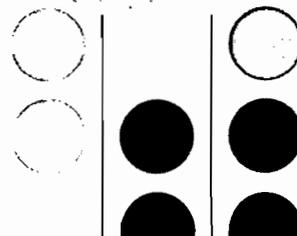
Many of the patients in the counties SIH serves are among the poorest and medically underserved regions in Illinois. In fact, the federal government designates each of the seven counties in SIH's service area as Health Professional Shortage Area(s) for Primary Care. Furthermore, many of these same counties have the highest cancer incident rates in the state.

SIH's mission to bring doctors, surgeons, nurses, radiologists and support staff together under one roof ensures these patients will get the right care at the right time in the right setting.

Respectfully,


John W. Watson MD

409 WEST OAK STREET
SUITE 202
CARBONDALE, IL 62901
618.529.0555 T
618.529.0556 F



March 1, 2013

Ms. Courtney R. Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: SIH Cancer Center, Project #13-005

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am taking this opportunity to voice my enthusiastic endorsement of Southern Illinois Healthcare's effort to build a comprehensive, freestanding cancer center to serve patients throughout a seven county region of rural southern Illinois. Thousands of these patients live in the most impoverished counties of Illinois. Many of these counties have the additional misfortune of being among those with the highest cancer incidence rates in the state.

Instead of enduring long, tedious and expensive travel outside of Illinois, weary patients along with their family and friends will benefit from the streamlined, team-based care the SIH Cancer Center will now be able to provide under one roof. For the first time in our region, SIH would offer the full continuum of cancer care in a single locale. These vital services include radiation therapy, chemotherapy, a home for multidisciplinary teams for breast, lung, gastrointestinal, genitourinary and head and neck cancers, clinical trials, support, survivorship and rehabilitation care. The SIH Cancer Center also enjoys an academic affiliation with the Simmons Cancer Institute at the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in Springfield. The breadth of this partnership brings additional, much-needed resources to southern Illinois.

Furthermore, many of the patients who will ultimately receive care at the SIH Cancer Center are among our state's most vulnerable--elderly, low-income and uninsured. In fact, all seven of the counties in SIH's service area are federally designated as "Health Professional Shortage Area(s) for Primary Medical Care."

I wholeheartedly support SIH's mission, values and commitment to bring this caliber of cancer care to southern Illinois. Thank you for your time and attention to this project.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. H. Moore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small "mo" written at the end.