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VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL

December 4, 2015

Courtney Avery
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

RECEIVED

DEC 08 2015

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center Freestanding Emergency Center, Streator

Dear Ms. Avery:

Enclosed is an application for a Freestanding Emergency Center ("FEC") and filing fee, as referenced above. As you know, St. Mary's Hospital in Streator is scheduled and approved to close January 4, 2016. OSF Healthcare System through OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center in Ottawa, Illinois, desires to open an FEC at the former location as quickly as possible at the former St. Mary's location.

OSF is acquiring the former hospital building with the intent to provide outpatient services there until it obtains approval and constructs a new outpatient services building in Streator. In order to preserve community access to emergency services in Streator, OSF desires to open the FEC as quickly as possible, understanding it must receive Health Facilities and Services Review Board ("HFSRB") approval and IDPH licensure. OSF has cooperated with the Illinois General Assembly to help make an FEC in Streator a possibility. Governor Rauner signed the legislation today (HB3213) to permit an FEC to exist in Streator, upon regulatory approval.

We submit this application with our respectful request that it be expedited and heard at the February meeting of the HFSRB. If Chairperson Olson could approve it prior to the meeting, the impact on the community of Streator as a result of the hospital's discontinuation would be even further reduced in terms of the timing gap between January 4, 2016 and the FEC's beginning date of operations to provide freestanding emergency services. However, if this is not possible, OSF would appreciate the application simply being expedited to consideration at the February meeting.

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As always, thank you for your assistance and feel free to call me with any questions or concerns.

Very truly yours,


Clare Connor Ranalli

cc: Mark Hohulin
Michael Henderson
Mike Constantino
George Roate

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