



## Office of Health Care Access

### Modification of Previously Authorized Certificate of Need

**Applicant:** Bridgeport Hospital

**Modification Docket Number:** 08-30945-MDF

**Modification Project Title:** A request to modify a previous Certificate of Need authorization to extend the CON expiration date.

**Original Project Docket Number and Title:** Docket Number 07-30945-WVR; The replacement of an existing Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory

**Statutory Reference:** Sections 4-181a(b), Connecticut General Statutes

**Filing Date:** March 31, 2008

**Decision Date:** April 2, 2008

**Staff:** Karen Roberts

**Project Description:** Bridgeport Hospital (“Hospital”) proposes a modification of the Certificate of Need (“CON”) authorization under Docket Number 07-30945-WVR, in order to extend the CON expiration date from March 29, 2008 to April 30, 2008. The CON authorization was for the replacement of one of the Hospital’s existing Cardiac Catheterization Laboratories at a total capital expenditure of \$1,813,366.

## Findings of Fact

1. On March 29, 2007, under Docket Number 07-30945-WVR, the Office of Health Care Access (“OHCA”) granted a Certificate of Need (“CON”) pursuant to Section 19a-639c of the Connecticut General Statutes to Bridgeport Hospital (“Hospital”) to replace one of its existing Cardiac Catheterization Laboratories at a total capital expenditure of \$1,813,366.
2. Condition #1 of the CON Order states the following:

*“1. This authorization shall expire on March 29, 2008. Should the Hospital’s cardiac catheterization laboratory equipment replacement project not be completed by that date, the Hospital must seek further approval from OHCA to complete the project beyond that date.”*
3. On March 31, 2008, OHCA received a request from the Hospital to modify the CON Final Decision under Docket Number 07-30945-WVR, in order to extend the CON expiration date from March 29, 2008<sup>1</sup> to April 30, 2008. The Hospital provides the following information related to this request for a time extension:
  - a) The implementation of the project was delayed by several months during the equipment selection and the design period and further delayed due to changes in lighting.
  - b) Delivery and installation of the new equipment has been completed as have all related construction and renovation requirements for the new laboratory.
  - c) Due to the scheduling of staff training sessions, the new equipment will not be available for patient care until after the current CON expiration date.
  - d) The training sessions are currently scheduled to take place during the first two weeks of April and the equipment will be available for patient use on April 14, 2008.

## Discussion

OHCA has reviewed this request for a modification to a previously authorized CON and finds that the relationship of the CON authorized under Docket Number 07-30945-WVR, to Section 19a-637, C.G.S., is not altered by this request for a modification under Docket Number 08-30945-MDF. The Hospital has acquired and installed the new equipment and performed necessary renovations. The equipment is not yet available for patient care solely due to necessary staff training. The additional time needed to complete the project will not result in a change to project scope or the authorized capital expenditure. OHCA finds the request for one additional month reasonable.

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<sup>1</sup> OHCA notes that March 29, 2008 falls on a weekend and not an OHCA business day.

## Order

Based on the above discussion and the reasons provided in the Hospital's modification request, OHCA hereby grants the request and modifies the CON authorized under Docket Number 07-30945-WVR. Condition Number One of the previous modification authorization under Docket Number 07-30945-WVR is modified as follows:

1. This authorization shall expire on April 30, 2008. Should the Hospital's cardiac catheterization laboratory equipment replacement project not be completed by that date, the Hospital must seek further approval from OHCA to complete the project beyond that date.

All other conditions set forth in the CON authorization issued under Docket Number 07-30945-WVR not modified herein, will remain in full effect.

By Order of the  
Office of Health Care Access

*Signed by Commissioner Vogel on April 2, 2008*

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Date

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Cristine A. Vogel  
Commissioner

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