

March 24, 2011

Dale Galassie, Chair  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

**RECEIVED**

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

RE: Project #10-090 (Centegra Hospital – Huntley)

Dear Mr. Galassie:

As an employee of Sherman Hospital I am committed to providing high-quality care to our nearby communities. Sherman Health made a \$325 million investment to improve health care in the region with its replacement hospital. And it's paying off for residents of northern Kane and southern McHenry counties.

I believe that Centegra's proposed Huntley hospital is unnecessary and would burden our already overwhelmed state and federal budgets. And, Centegra would need to charge high rates to cover its expenses. That means people like me – either through higher taxes or higher private insurance rates – would have to pick up the costs.

Here are just a few of the concerns I'd like to raise about Centegra's proposed Huntley hospital:

- A hospital in Huntley would duplicate existing services in the area, which are easily accessible to Huntley. Area providers already have more than adequate capacity to provide more services if they are needed.
- If a new limited service hospital were to be built, it would make all hospitals weaker. The hospital would draw patients from existing hospitals, undermining their long-term plans.
- Centegra has a job to do as the steward of its community's health care dollars and building this hospital would be a big mistake. Centegra should focus on protecting the health care safety net by expanding the subsidized community services it provides, such as cancer screening programs, health education classes, support to FQHCs and mental health outreach services.

I oppose Centegra's plans to build a hospital in Huntley, and I ask you to reject Centegra's CON permit application.

Sincerely,



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Elgin, IL 60123  
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