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St. Alexius Medical Center

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

May 20, 2011

Mr. Dale Galassie
Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
525 W Jefferson St - 2nd Fl
Springfield IL 62761

Re: U.S. Renal Care Streamwood Dialysis

Dear Mr. Galassie:

As Chief Executive Officer of St. Alexius Medical Center, I am writing in support of the U.S. Renal Care Certificate of Need application to establish a 13 station dialysis facility in Streamwood. U.S. Renal Care is known for providing high quality of care for patients with chronic and acute renal disease. U.S. Renal Care also provides patients with a choice of a full range of quality care, including in-center or at-home hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis services.

St. Alexius Medical Center is experiencing a significant increase in patients requiring dialysis services. At the same time, the availability of such services in existing facilities has become limited. As a result, our patients often experience delayed discharge and thus unnecessary increases in length of stay. This volume of unnecessary patient days results in significant cost to our Hospital and to our patients individually.

Furthermore, St. Alexius Medical Center is also experiencing a change in the demographics of our patient population. St. Alexius Medical Center serves a growing number of Hispanic, Asian, and elderly patients who are at a disproportionate risk for diabetes and high blood pressure, which are the leading causes of kidney failure. As a result, we have been under increasing pressure to obtain dialysis services for these patients. As previously referenced, the availability of dialysis services from existing providers in the area has decreased and, as such, we have had greater difficulty in obtaining such services for our patients.

We anticipate that the volume of patients requiring dialysis services will continue to increase and wish to ensure that there are adequate resources to meet the needs of these patients. As such, I strongly support this project and ask that the Board approve the Certificate of Need application for the U.S. Renal Care Streamwood Dialysis facility.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need additional information or if I can be of assistance to you in any manner whatsoever. I am available 24 hours a day via the hospital switchboard. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Edward M. Goldberg
President and Chief Executive Officer