

17-049

January 29, 2018

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Ms. Kathryn J. Olson
Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and
Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Northgrove Dialysis

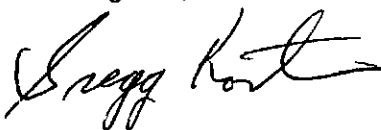
Dear Ms. Olson:

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Gregg Korte the Vice President, of Korte & Luitjohan Contractors Inc., a regional design-build construction company. My father founded the company in Highland in 1958 and are very proud of our humble roots. Today we manage more than \$30 million of construction volume each year.

With 65 employees that either live here in Highland, or the East Metro area, we have a great interest in the future of Highland and support efforts to address the ongoing shortage of health care professionals and services in our area. For this reason, we strongly support DaVita's proposal to establish Northgrove Dialysis. Several of our construction clients and employees have been impacted by kidney disease in one way or another. We know firsthand how burdensome dialysis can be for those who require treatment three times per week simply to survive. While some inconvenience is to be expected, it is compounded by the fact that Highland residents must travel nearly 20 miles or more in order to receive this care. That amounts to an extra two hours or more per week in travel time for individuals who are in poor health, elderly or have limited resources. For hourly employees, it also amounts to nearly one full day in wages per month – just for travel time.

As a construction company, we continue to build for the future of Highland. Korte & Luitjohan Contractors, Inc. and I support the proposed Northgrove Dialysis facility and we respectfully request that the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board approve the Northgrove Dialysis application and support DaVita in these efforts to ensure that present and future Highland residents have the health resources they need in the community where they live.

Kind Regards,



Gregg Korte
Vice President
Korte & Luitjohan Contractors, Inc.

