

August 24, 2020

Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities & Review Board
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Springfield, IL 62761
courtney.avery@illinois.gov

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: Opposition to CON Application #20-17 – Metroeast Endoscopic Surgery Center

Dear Ms. Avery:

As a board member of St. Elizabeth's Hospital and a life-long resident of the area, I strongly oppose CON application #20-17 and urge denial of the application by the Review Board. This application will devastate two high-quality hospitals that provide critical care services: St. Joseph's hospital in Breese, Illinois and St. Joseph's hospital in Highland, Illinois (which is also a designated Critical Access Hospital).

The faults in CON application #20-17 are as follows:

- The project proposes duplication of services based entirely on procedures currently offered at the two existing St. Joseph hospitals;
- The proposed services will increase patient costs - for example, MESC proposes to charge \$39,897 for CPT Code 29807 (Arthroscopy Shoulder Surgical Repair Slap Lesion) – more than double what St. Joseph's - Highland charges for the same procedure at \$17,535; and
- The resulting reduction in revenues to the existing hospitals will diminish safety-net services in the area, as well as the financial support for many community organizations and programs.

Each of these items run counter to the goals of the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Act; therefore, I respectfully believe that the Review Board should deny the application.

Respectfully,



Georgia Costello
Board Member, St. Elizabeth's Hospital
1 St. Elizabeth's Boulevard
O'Fallon, IL 62269

Cc: Mike Constantino
Project Reviewer
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