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August 26, 2021

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Via Email

Ms. Courtney R. Avery  
Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review  
Board  
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

**Re: Metroeast Endoscopic Surgery Center (Project No. 20-017)**

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing on behalf of Metroeast Endoscopic Surgery Center, LLC (“MESC”) to notify the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board (the “Board”) MESC is withdrawing its certificate of need application for the addition of orthopedic surgery at its surgery center. As you know, our interpretation is that there are no meaningful criteria relative to the addition of a surgical specialty whose associated capital expenditure is well under the capital expenditure minimum and which does not add capacity. And this is particularly true given the stated purposes of the Planning Act. That said, we now understand the physician who had committed to perform cases at the surgery center has determined that he will no longer practice in Illinois. As a result, MESC is withdrawing its application.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Anne M. Cooper'.

Anne M. Cooper

cc: Dr. Shakeel Ahmed  
Mr. Michael Constantino

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