

May 16, 2024

Debra Savage, Chairwoman
Illinois Health Facilities & Services
Review Board 525 W Jefferson St
2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

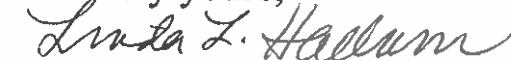
RE: Opposition Letter for OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center replacement hospital (CON Project#24-011)

Dear Ms. Savage:

My family has supported Ryburn Hospital, Ottawa Community Hospital, Ottawa Regional Hospital & Healthcare Center, and OSF ST Elizabeth Medical Center through the years. As we are aging, our needs for healthcare have grown. With a new hospital being announced our concerns about our care for an operating room, medical/surgical beds, and intensive care unit beds availability is very upsetting. The cuts declared for the new hospital are outrageous! I would like proof and reasons for these drastic cuts for the new hospital. The current OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center is being supported by the community. Why do we need a new hospital? What is wrong with the current hospital? Have there been layoffs of staff providing these services that warrant these cuts in a new hospital?

If we have to travel to Morris or Peru for our care, that would be considered a hardship due to traveling out of town especially when you are ill. I feel sorry for the young families that have to travel a distant to have a baby. That includes nine months before the birth of the baby, traveling expenses, and time involved to see a physician monthly or more. I don't want my community to end up like Streator community with more cuts in the future!

Sincerely yours,



Linda L. Hallam
Concerned Citizen