

July 23, 2025

Chairwoman Debra Savage &
Board Members of the Illinois
HFSRB
525 W Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL. 62761

RE: Project 25-013
Discontinuation of ICU & OB Services
OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center-Ottawa

Dear Chairwoman Savage & Board Members

I write this letter in opposition to Project 25-013.

I have been intricately involved in the meetings with our community/City and OSF officials. At the HFSRB hearing in March I shared with your board that we have been meeting but have been unable to make any progress with OSF. Since that hearing, we have continued to meet and have added the CEO of OSF, Robert Sehring, Colleen Burns & State Representative Muriel Briel to these discussions as well. Unfortunately, while we meet OSF continues to demonstrate they have zero intent to work with our community and the surrounding area.

For the second straight year in a row our community has requested and gathered for a public hearing in early June from the HFSRB Board at Central Intermediate School in Ottawa regarding the Certificate of Needs filed by OSF. And for the second year in a row, this cafetorium was packed with citizens from our area firmly opposed to the plans OSF continue to put forward to the HFSRB.

When the one year deferral was granted in March of 2025 by the HFSRB Board, it was requested of OSF to work with our community. This has not happened nor have they shown any intent that they will do this in the near future either.

Please support the wishes of State Representative Briel, the City of Ottawa, the City of Marseilles and the citizens in these communities and the surrounding area by voting no to this Certificate of Need. It is so very important to have OSF work with the communities that they serve and they have clearly failed to live up to this request with any and all of their future plans in Ottawa.

Sincerely,

Ron Henson
Ottawa Business Owner

