



A Global Medical Response Solution

4/30/2026

Debra Savage, Chairperson
Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761
Dph.hfsrb@illinois.gov

Re: Project 26-012 Touchette Regional Hospital/SIHF Healthcare Replacement Hospital

Dear Ms. Savage,

Please accept this letter of support for the proposed new hospital campus in Cahokia Heights, Illinois.

I'm writing to support Touchette Regional Hospital's plan to build a new hospital campus in Cahokia Heights. We see firsthand how important Touchette is to timely emergency and inpatient care for our patients. A new, modern facility will strengthen local access to care and help keep EMS handoffs and transitions to the emergency department smooth and efficient.

We also welcome the addition of 24 adolescent psychiatric beds. Our crews regularly respond to behavioral health calls involving young people, and the right level of inpatient capacity matters. This expansion should shorten waits for placement, reduce the need to transport patients far from home, and connect more families to care close to their community.

Sincerely,

Brian Gerth
Regional Director – Abbott EMS
4400 N Belt West, Belleville, IL
Brian.Gerth@gmr.net