

Roate, George

From: John Kniery [JKniery@foleyandassociates.com]
Sent: Monday, September 12, 2011 3:34 PM
To: Roate, George; Constantino, Mike; Avery, Courtney
Cc: Jay Scharer; Randy Morris
Subject: 11-060 support letter
Attachments: Northwest University Support letter.pdf

Ms. Avery, Mr. Constantino and Mr. Roate: Please accept this letter as additional public comment in support of the Naperville Fertility Center, Project Number 11-060. Thanks.

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**



Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
Illinois Department of Public Health
525 West Jefferson Street, Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

August 30, 2011

Regarding:

Certificate of Need for Naperville Fertility Center,
11 North Washington Street (aka 11 West Benton Street & 15 North Washington Street), Naperville, IL
60540 By Randy Morris, M.D.

Dear Ms. Avery;

Infertility affects 1 in 6 couples. Although there are many treatments available, many will end up requiring in vitro fertilization (IVF). Since the first IVF pregnancy in 1979, much has changed in the way that IVF is performed. As our knowledge has increased, one of the concepts that has emerged is that eggs, sperm and embryos are very fragile and susceptible to small changes in the environment.

I am the Chief of the Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility at the Feinberg School of Medicine of Northwestern University in Chicago. In my expert opinion, a fertility center should be composed of an integrated in vitro fertilization laboratory and procedure suite. This is how the Northwestern IVF program is structured. Even though we are connected by an indoor bridge to adjacent hospital buildings with operating theaters, we feel it is essential to have a separate, independent area in which to perform IVE. The surgical suite and the IVF lab must be viewed as an indivisible unit.

I have known Dr. Morris for several years. He is a well-respected physician who is board certified in our specialty. Although most of his patient population is located in the western suburbs, Dr. Morris has been performing his IVF procedures in downtown Chicago. This presents an undue hardship for his patients who want to be under his care but are forced to drive sometimes an hour or more to complete their treatments.

Infertility is a stressful time in the lives our patients. Anything that we can do to reduce their stress will raise their quality of care.

In short, I fully support this project without reservation and urge you to issue a Certificate of Need for the construction of the Naperville Fertility Center.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ralph R. Kazer".

Ralph R. Kazer, M.D.
Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Chief, Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility