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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

July 17, 2012

To: Dale Glassie, Chairman, Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
Courtney Avery, Administrator, Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board

From: Susie Stark, Executive Director *SS*

RE: Dialysis Services, Pekin, IL

I have reviewed the State Board Report regarding project 12-~~051~~⁰⁰⁴ and disagree with the determination that there is not a need for a dialysis facility in the Pekin area. Over the last month, we have received a number of complaints from beneficiaries in the Pekin, IL area concerning the challenges of finding dialyzing services near their homes. The beneficiaries' primary concern is a lack of available dialysis stations forcing travel of up to an hour to dialysis facilities in cities outside of Pekin. Additionally, beneficiaries that are currently dialyzing in Pekin complain that because the dialysis unit is full, there is no ability to accommodate requests for shift changes or even a schedule change potentially resulting in patients having to choose between receiving dialysis and accommodating work schedules and attending events like graduations, weddings, etc.

An analysis of April 2012 beneficiary and dialysis facility data in the Pekin & Peoria, IL area revealed utilization rates of 100% in Pekin and close to 80% in Peoria, IL. I understand that the IL Health Facilities and Services Review Board will be meeting again to address the need for additional dialysis services in the Pekin area. I urge you to consider the concerns of the ESRD beneficiaries in this area and support the need for increased dialysis services in Pekin.

If the staff of The Renal Network, Inc. can be of any assistance as you consider this expansion of services or others in the state of IL, please don't hesitate to contact me at ss Stark@nw10.srd.net or 317-257-8265.

Thank you for your consideration of the concerns of these beneficiaries.

Serving the renal community in Delaware, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, and Illinois.