



August 14, 2012

Mr. Dale Galassie
Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson St., 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: 12-058: U.S. Renal Care Lemont Dialysis Center
12-059: U.S. Renal Care Plainfield Dialysis Center

Dear Mr. Galassie:

It is my understanding that U.S. Renal is applying for a Certificate of Need to establish a 13-station dialysis facility in Lemont and Plainfield. U.S. Renal Care is known for providing high quality of care for patients with chronic and acute renal disease. U.S. Renal Care also provides patients with a choice of a full range of quality care, including in-center or at-home hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis services.

I applaud the Board for approving a new U.S. Renal Care dialysis center in Bolingbrook last year and look forward to its opening soon. But even when it opens, there will still be a need for more dialysis treatment clinics to meet the growing demand in Will and Cook Counties.

Over the last several years, we've seen growth in the area of chronic disease and diversity. But it's critical that we have the necessary health care services to meet the changing and increasing demands of area residents.

Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital opened in January 2008 and since that time, we have experienced an increase in patients with kidney disease requiring dialysis services. Additionally, we serve a growing number of Hispanic and African American patients, who are at a disproportionate risk of diabetes and high blood pressure, which are the leading causes of kidney failure. We anticipate that the volume of patients requiring dialysis services will continue to increase.

Our hospital provides in-patient dialysis services only. Once patients are ready to be discharged, the challenge becomes finding them outpatient facilities where they can receive the life-saving care they need close to home. And while there are facilities in the area—there simply aren't enough of them.

This causes delayed discharges that result in unnecessary increases in length of stays and costs. But moreover, it impacts coordination of care for patients. Two more dialysis centers in the area will help to ensure patients can get the treatment they need, when they need it.

Our goal is to continue to maintain and improve the quality of life for the people that we serve. As such, I do support these projects and ask that the Board to approve the Certificate of Need application for the U.S. Renal Care Lemont and Plainfield dialysis facilities.

Sincerely,



Rick D. Mace
Chief Executive Officer
Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital

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