



November 3, 2014

Mr. Michael S. Easley  
Chief Executive Officer  
Centegra Health System  
385 Millennium Drive  
Crystal Lake, IL 60012

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HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

RE: Project 14-053  
Centegra Hospital-Huntley  
Letter of Opposition and Impact

Dear Mr. Easley:

This letter is being sent to document Vista Health System's opposition to your plans to add a cardiac catheterization ("cath") service to your proposed Huntley Hospital, and in response to your October 17, 2014 letter requesting that Vista Medical Center East comment on the anticipated impact on Vista Medical Center East's utilization, should your project be approved by the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board.

Because of the nature of multi-hospital systems, it would be incorrect to assume that a cath service in Huntley would not impact a similar service in Waukegan.

First, as cath volume is shifted from Centegra's McHenry hospital to Centegra's Huntley hospital, capacity will "free up" in Centegra's McHenry hospital's cath lab, and particularly capacity during the most desirable hours for scheduled procedures. Vista Health System and Centegra Health System have overlapping service areas, particularly in north central and northwest Lake County, and the addition of cath lab capacity at Centegra's McHenry hospital resulting from the moving of cases to Centegra-Huntley will likely result in a negative impact on the utilization of Vista Medical Center East's cath lab, particularly by residents from communities such as Lake Villa, Antioch, Round Lake, Grays Lake and Ingleside. During 2013, 271 residents of the ZIP Code areas assigned to these five Lake County communities received services in Vista Medical Center East's cath lab. An additional eleven patients from McHenry County utilized Vista Medical Center East's cath lab in 2013.

Second, surely the planning for Centegra-Huntley involved an assessment of whether or not cardiac catheterization services should have been included in that Certificate of Need application. One of the factors that was likely taken into consideration was the low utilization of the cardiac cath service at Centegra's McHenry hospital, when compared to the IDPH's utilization standard. The IDPH's utilization target for cardiac cath programs is 1,500 procedures per year, not the minimum of 400 procedures per year at existing providers prior to the approval of an additional program referenced on page 88 of your CON application. As noted in Centegra-McHenry's IDPH *Hospital Profile*, the hospital has three cath procedure rooms, and only 1,855 procedures were performed in 2013. As such, more than sufficient cath capacity already exists at Centegra's McHenry hospital.

Sincerely,

Barbara J. Martin  
President and CEO

cc M. Constantino