



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

JOHN G. ROWLAND
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL
COMMISSIONER

April 2, 2004

Stephen M. Cowherd, Esquire
Jeffers & Ireland
55 Walls Drive
Fairfield, CT 06824

Re: Certificate of Need Determination Report Number 04-30266-DTR
Stamford Health System
Stamford Health System to Divest Ownership of Visiting Nurse and Hospice Care
of Southwestern Connecticut, Inc.

Dear Attorney Cowherd:

On March 8, 2004 and March 30, 2004, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received your Certificate of Need ("CON") Determination request on behalf of Stamford Health System ("SHS") to divest ownership in Visiting Nurse and Hospice Care of Southwestern Connecticut, Inc. ("VNHC"), at no capital cost or expenditure. OHCA has reviewed the information contained in your CON Determination request letter and makes the following findings:

1. VNHC is a Home Health and Hospice Agency located at 1029 East Main Street, Stamford Connecticut.
2. On July 31, 1996, under Report Number: 96-E2, OHCA issued a determination that the affiliation of Stamford Health System with Hospice Care, Inc. (now known as Visiting Nurse and Hospice of Southwestern Connecticut) did not require a CON.
3. Under this proposal, Stamford Health System proposes to divest its ownership of VNHC.
4. SHS is currently the sole member of VNHC, which will continue to provide services as an independent entity after the divestiture.
5. The proposal does not involve any capital cost or expenditure by SHS.
6. The closing date for the divestiture is expected to occur on or about July 1, 2004.

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined the Stamford Health System's proposal to divest ownership in Visiting Nurses and Hospice Care of Southwestern Connecticut, Inc., will not require Certificate of Need approval from OHCA pursuant to Sections 19a-638 or 19a-639 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as Visiting Nurses and Hospice Care of Southwestern Connecticut, Inc. is an exempt from the Certificate of Need process under 19a-639(a).

Thank you for providing information to OHCA regarding this proposal. If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Steven Lazarus at (860) 418-7012.

Sincerely,

Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

CAV:sl