



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

M. JODI RELL  
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL  
COMMISSIONER

March 28, 2006

Mr. Stephen Larcen, Ph.D.  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Natchaug Hospital  
189 Storrs Road  
Mansfield, CT 06250

Re: Certificate of Need Determination, Report Number 06-30706-DTR  
Natchaug Hospital  
Staffing of Additional Beds in Mansfield

Dear Dr. Larcen:

On March 10, 2006, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received your Certificate of Need ("CON") determination request regarding the staffing of additional beds at Natchaug Hospital in Mansfield. Please be advised that OHCA has reviewed the information submitted and makes the following findings:

1. Natchaug Hospital ("Natchaug") is licensed by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health to maintain and operate a Hospital for Mentally Ill Persons at 189 Storrs Road, Mansfield, Connecticut.
2. Natchaug's stated that the maximum number of beds shall not exceed, at any time, 60 licensed beds. Currently Natchaug staffs 54 of the 60 licensed beds.
3. Natchaug has allocated 12 beds to its adolescent inpatient program and operates 3 additional beds as swing beds for either adolescent or child patients.
4. Natchaug proposes to staff an additional 2 beds to a maximum of 6 beds under its current license to increase the number of beds allocated to its adolescent inpatient program.

5. Natchaug is proposing to add the additional staffed beds in order to accommodate fluctuations in demand.
6. Natchaug will continue to operate and be licensed for 60 licensed beds with the proposed additional staffed beds.
7. The estimated capital expenditure for the required renovations to accommodate the adolescent inpatient program is \$600,000 and the estimated capital expenditure for non-medical equipment is of \$24,000, for a total estimated capital expenditure of \$624,000.
8. Section 19a-638 of the Connecticut General Statutes (“C.G.S.”) states that each health care facility or institution or state health care facility or institution, including any inpatient rehabilitation facility, which intends to introduce any additional function or service into its program of health care shall submit to the office, prior to the proposed date of the institution of such function or service, a request for permission to undertake such function or service.
9. Section 19a-639. C.G.S., states, in part, that each health care facility proposing a capital expenditure exceeding one million dollars shall submit a request for approval of such expenditure to the office in advance of the proposed initiation date of such project.

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined that Natchaug’s proposal to add staffed beds under its current license at an estimated total capital expenditure of \$624,000, does not represent an additional function or service and is below the one million dollar threshold. Therefore, Certificate of Need approval from OHCA is not required. However, any proposed increase in licensed beds would require a Certificate of Need from OHCA.

Thank you for keeping OHCA informed of your plans regarding the proposal. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Laurie Greci, Associate Research Analyst at (860) 418-7032.

Sincerely,

Signed by Cristine A. Vogel  
Commissioner

c: Rose McLellan, Licensing Examination Assistant, DPH, DHSR

CAV:lkg