November 22, 2019

Theresa Sullivan, MBA, FACHE, Chief Executive Officer
Samaritan Healthcare
801 East Wheeler Road
Moses Lake, Washington 98837

RE: Determination of Reviewability #20-05

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

The Department of Health has completed the review of your request that the department determine whether construction of a new facility in Moses Lake to replace Samaritan Healthcare is subject to the Certificate of Need requirements under Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 70.38 and Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 246-310. For the reasons stated below, the department concludes that the proposed replacement hospital is subject to Certificate of Need review pursuant to WAC 246-310-020(1)(a) as the construction, development, or other establishment of a new health care facility.

Below is the information considered and the facts relied upon by the Certificate of Need Program in reaching its conclusion regarding your project.

INFORMATION CONSIDERED
- Samaritan Healthcare’s exemption letter received September 25, 2019
- Samaritan Healthcare’s supplemental information received October 10, 2019
- Ms. Lori Nomura’s letter received September 13, 2019
- Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 70.38
- Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 246-310
- MultiCare Health System v. Department of Health, 118 Wash.App. 597. Court of Appeals of Washington, Division 2
- Washington Department of Revenue information obtained from its website
- Department of Health Integrated Licensing and Regulatory System (ILRS)
- Previous Determination of Reviewability decisions issued by the department for facility replacement projects.
FACTS CONSIDERED

- Grant County Public Hospital District #1 owns and operates Samaritan Healthcare located in Moses Lake within Grant County.
- Samaritan Healthcare is currently registered with the Washington State Department of Revenue. [source: Washington State Department of Revenue website]
- Samaritan Healthcare is currently licensed for 50 acute care beds and is designated by the Department of Health as a level III adult trauma center.
- Samaritan Healthcare intends to construct a new facility on a new site in Moses Lake, approximately 2.5 miles from the current facility.
- The postmaster has not assigned an address to the new site, which occupies the corner of East Yonezawa Boulevard and Clover Drive Southeast. The site consists of six contiguous tax parcels 090869025, 090869030, 090869031, 090869032, 110074000, and 110074001, all of which are currently owned by the district.
- The site for the replacement hospital is located within Grant County, which is the planning area for the existing hospital.
- Grant County Public Hospital District #1 will continue to own and operate the hospital at the new site.
- Current operational staff and medical services will relocate in their entirety to the replacement hospital.
- No hospital services will continue to operate at the current location after the new facility is operational.
- No new tertiary services will be offered as a result of the replacement hospital project.
- No new services that require their own Certificate of Need will be offered as a result of the replacement hospital project.

CONCLUSION

Based on the totality of information considered, the department concludes that the proposed project, the construction of a replacement hospital for Samaritan Healthcare on the site identified above, involves construction of a new facility that will be required to qualify for a license under chapter 70.41 RCW. Accordingly, the department concludes that the replacement hospital is subject to Certificate of Need review pursuant to WAC 246-310-020(1)(a) as the construction, development, or other establishment of a new health care facility.

APPEAL OPTION

This decision may be appealed. You or any person with standing may request an adjudicative proceeding to contest this decision within 28 calendar days from the date of this letter. The notice of appeal must be filed according to the provisions of Revised Code of Washington 34.05 and Washington Administrative Code 246-310-610. A request for an adjudicative proceeding must be received within the 28 days at one of the addresses listed below.
If you have any questions or would like to arrange for a meeting to discuss this decision, please call me at (360) 236-2955.

Sincerely,

Nancy Tyson, Executive Director
Health Facilities and Certificate of Need
Community Health Systems

cc:  Department of Health, Investigations and Inspections Office
     Department of Health, Construction Review Services