



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Olympia, Washington 98504

February 2, 2017

Gary Bostrom CEO and CFO
East Adams Rural Healthcare
903 South Adams
Ritzville, Washington 99169

RE: Determination of Reviewability [DOR] 17-04

Dear Mr. Bostrom:

The Department of Health has completed its review of the exemption request for East Adams Rural Health proposing to increase its total number of swing beds from 5 to 12. Below is the information considered and the facts relied upon by the department's Certificate of Need Program in reaching its conclusion regarding your project.

INFORMATION CONSIDERED

- Exemption request received on August 19, 2016
- Revised exemption request received on February 2, 2017
- Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 70.38
- Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 246-310
- Department of Health Integrated Licensing and Regulatory System (ILRS) data
- DSHS Nursing Home Locator Tool
- Certificate of Need Program historical files

FACTS CONSIDERED

- East Adams Rural Healthcare is a Critical Access Hospital located at 903 South Adams in Ritzville, within Adams County [99169].
- The hospital is currently licensed for 20 acute care beds; of the 20 beds, 5 are swing beds.¹
- This project proposes to increase the number of swing beds from 5 to 12. The total number of acute care beds would remain at 20.
- East Adams Rural Healthcare would continue to operate as a 20-bed critical access hospital.

¹ Swing beds are designated by an eligible rural hospital and are available to provide either acute care or nursing home services [WAC 246-310-010(58)].

- There is one nursing home located in Adams County. The nursing home, East Adams Care Center, is owned and operated by Adams County Public Hospital District #2, the same owner and operator of the hospital.
- Once East Adams Rural Healthcare is operating 12 swing beds, the nursing home, East Adams Care Center, will close and the nursing home beds will be banked under full facility closure provisions of Revised Code of Washington 70.38.115(13)(b).²

CONCLUSION

Based on the totality of information considered, the department concludes the proposed increase in swing beds would be exempt from Certificate of Need review as allowed under Revised Code of Washington 70.38.105(4)(e). This exemption is not transferable and the conclusions reached concerning this project are based on the facts about this facility and it should not be assumed the department would reach the same conclusion in future exemption requests. This project may also need Department of Health approval for a construction plan and facility licensing or certification, as well as other federal or local jurisdiction permits.

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.

Mailing Address:

Department of Health
Adjudicative Service Unit
Mail Stop 47879
Olympia, WA 98504-7879

Physical Address

Department of Health
Adjudicative Service Unit
111 Israel Road SE
Tumwater, WA 98501

We monitor projects until completed. We do this with quarterly progress reports. At least 30 days before the report's due date, you will receive a form to complete and return.

If you have any questions regarding this determination, you can call me at (360) 236-2955.

Sincerely,



Janis Sigman, Manager
Certificate of Need Program
Community Health Systems

cc: Department of Health, Construction Review Services #60727239

² Full Facility Closure Bed Banking Application #17-01.