



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Certificate of Need Program
111 Israel Road Southeast – MS 4-7852
Olympia, Washington 98504

March 16, 2018

Nancy Molahan, CEO
Southwest Washington Regional Surgery Center
200 Northeast Mother Joseph Place, #200
Vancouver, Washington 98664

RE: Determination of Reviewability #18-10

Dear Ms. Molahan:

The Department of Health has completed its review of your Determination of Reviewability [DOR] request regarding the relocation of two operating rooms at Southwest Washington Regional Surgery Center in Vancouver. Below is background information and facts considered and relied upon by the Department of Health's Certificate of Need Program in reaching its conclusion regarding your project.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- On March 16, 1999, Certificate of Need (CN) #1186 was issued to Southwest Washington Regional Surgery Center, LLC approving the establishment of a ten operating room (OR) surgery center.
- The approved site for the surgery center is 400 Northeast Mother Joseph Place in Vancouver, within Clark County.
- On November 7, 2001, the CN program acknowledge that the surgery center was operational and all conditions attached to CN #1185 had been met.
- Southwest Washington Regional Surgery Center has remained in continuous operation at its approved site since opening in year 2001.
- Southwest Washington Regional Surgery Center is currently licensed with the Department of Health.¹
- Southwest Washington Regional Surgery Center identifies the following services are provided: ENT, gastroenterology, general surgery, neurological surgery, gynecology, ophthalmology, orthopedic, pain management, plastic surgery, and podiatry.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- This DOR application proposes to relocate two of the ten ORs to a new floor, resulting in eight ORs in suite 200 and two ORs in suite 340.

¹ ASF.FS.60099977.

- Southwest Washington Medical Center states that the relocation would “*provide for a needed enlargement of the decontamination and central processing areas in the center, and for additional staging and storage of orthopedic instrumentation and equipment, increasing the overall efficiency of the center.*”
- Services currently provided in the two ORs are: gastroenterology, otolaryngology, general surgery, and pain management.
- Once relocated to suite 340, services to be provided in the two ORs are: pain management and orthopedic surgery.
- The
- Once the two ORs are relocated, no surgical services would be provided in the former space in suite 200.
- Even though the two ORs would be located in a separate suite in the surgery center, all ten ORs would remain licensed under Southwest Washington Regional Surgery Center’s current license.

INFORMATION CONSIDERED

- DOR letter received in the Certificate of Need Program office on November 21, 2017.
- Supplemental information received November 21, 2017.
- Clarifying information received from Southwest Washington Regional Surgery Center’s attorney on March 7, 2018.
- Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 70.38
- Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 246-310
- Department of Health external provider look-up
- Department of Health Integrated Licensing and Regulatory System (ILRS)
- Southwest Washington Regional Surgery Center website at www.swsurgerycenter.com
- Certificate of Need historical files

CONCLUSION

Based on the totality of information considered, the department concludes the relocation of two ORs at Southwest Washington Regional Surgery Center do not require prior Certificate of Need review. However, the two vacated ORs may not be equipped for use for any surgical procedures without prior Certificate of Need review and approval as required in WAC 246-310-020(1)(a)(iii).

This conclusion is not transferable and the conclusions reached concerning this project based on the facts about this facility and it should not be assumed the department would reach the same conclusion in future similar requests.

If changes are made in the operation of the two relocated ORs or Southwest Washington Regional Surgery Center as a whole, prior Certificate of Need review and approval may be required. Examples of such changes include the following. This list is not intended to be all inclusive.

Nancy Molahan, CEO
Southwest Washington Regional Surgery Center
DOR 18-10
March 16, 2018
Page 3 of 3

- The scope of services is expanded to include services subject to Certificate of Need review under the provisions of WAC 246-310-020.
- The scope of services is expanded beyond the services as identified above.
- The provision of any procedure as identified under WAC 246-310-705(4).
- Southwest Washington Regional Surgery Center is moved to a different site than identified in the DOR application.
- Southwest Washington Regional Surgery Center obtains Medicare certification for the two ORs separate from the remaining eight ORs.
- Southwest Washington Regional Surgery Center ceases operations or relinquishes its Medicare certification, and then chooses to resume services as a surgery center.

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 on the following page.

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

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,



Janis Sigman, Manager
Certificate of Need Program
Community Health Systems