

**STATE OF VERMONT  
GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD**

In re: Application of Northeastern Vermont )  
Regional Hospital, Renovation/ )  
Construction/Expansion of Emergency ) GMCB-005-23con  
Department and Laboratory )  
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**CERTIFICATE OF NEED**

In accordance with Title 18, Chapter 221, Subchapter 5, other applicable laws, and the Statement of Decision and Order in this matter, the Green Mountain Care Board issues this certificate of need to Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital (NVRH or “the Applicant”), subject to the conditions set forth below.

**Project Description and Scope**

The project involves the expansion and renovation of the Emergency Department (ED) and the expansion and modernization of the Laboratory (Lab). The project is needed because the areas of the hospital that house these existing essential services have not been upgraded in many years. The ED has not been upgraded since it was constructed in 1972 and the Lab, constructed in 1994, received only a minimal update in 2007. The ED and Lab areas are undersized, cannot accommodate current volumes, are not compliant with FGI Guidelines and other regulatory requirements, are not designed to maximize patient flow and staff efficiencies and do not provide adequate space for patient comfort and privacy.

NVRH is a critical access hospital serving a population of approximately 30,000 people in Caledonia County and southern Essex County in northeastern Vermont. The total cost of the project is \$14,464,831.

The project is outlined in greater detail in the Statement of Decision and Order in this docket, incorporated herein and issued today by the Board.

**Project Conditions**

The project as proposed, subject to the following conditions, meets the statutory criteria set forth in 18 V.S.A. § 9437:

1. The Applicant shall develop and operate the project in strict compliance with its scope as described in the application, in other materials in the record submitted by the Applicant,

and in strict conformance with the Statement of Decision and Order issued today in this docket. This certificate of need is limited to the project and activities described therein.

2. Throughout the project's implementation period, the Applicant shall comply with all current and future financial caps, targets, and other conditions imposed by the Board in its hospital budget instructions, guidance, and orders.
3. Noncompliance with any provision of this certificate of need or with applicable ordinances, rules, laws, and regulations constitutes a violation of this certificate of need and may be cause for enforcement action pursuant to 18 V.S.A. §§ 9445, 9374(i), (j), and any other applicable law.
4. The project shall be fully implemented within four (4) years of the date of issuance of this certificate of need.
5. The Applicant shall file implementation reports with the Board beginning six months from the date of this certificate of need and at six-month intervals thereafter until all components and phases of the project are complete and fully operational and all invoices have been received and paid. The implementation reports shall include the following:
  - a. an overview of the project, including any changes in financing, and information and analysis demonstrating that the project fully complies with its scope as approved in this certificate of need.
  - b. documentation and verification of the specific sources, including reserves, used to finance this project including the source of funds and dollar amount associated with each that equal the total project cost of \$14,464,831.
  - c. a spreadsheet separately listing each individual line-item expenditure and, for each expenditure: 1) the total dollar amount approved by the Board; 2) the dollar amount spent through previous reporting periods; 3) the dollar amount spent during this reporting period; 4) the cumulative dollar amount spent to date; 5) the amount remaining in dollars, and 6) the amount remaining as a percentage.
6. This certificate of need is not transferable or assignable and is issued only for the premises and entity named in the application.
7. If the Applicant contemplates or becomes aware of a nonmaterial change, as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 9432(12), or a material change as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 9432(11), to the scope or cost of the project described in its application and as designated in this certificate of need, the Applicant shall file a notice of such change immediately with the Board. The Board shall thereafter advise the applicant whether the proposed change is subject to additional review.

8. The Board may, after the Applicant is provided notice and an opportunity to be heard, make such further orders as are necessary or desirable to accomplish the purposes of this certificate of need and to ensure compliance with its terms and conditions.
9. All reports, notices, forms, information, or submissions of any kind required to be submitted to the Board as a condition of this certificate of need shall be signed and verified by the Applicant's chief executive officer, or by his or her designated representative.
10. The conditions contained in this certificate of need shall remain in effect for the duration of the reporting period set forth in Condition 6, above.

**SO ORDERED.**

Dated: October 11, 2023, at Montpelier, Vermont.

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s/ Owen Foster, Chair )  
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s/ Jessica Holmes )  
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s/ Robin Lunge )  
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s/ David Murman )

GREEN MOUNTAIN  
 CARE BOARD OF  
 VERMONT

Filed: October 11, 2023

Attest: /s/ Jean Stetter, Administrative Services Director