



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
*Olympia, Washington 98504*

May 26, 2016

Tim Cournyer, RN Chief Executive Officer  
 Forks Community Hospital  
 530 Bogachiel Way  
 Forks, Washington 98331

Dear Mr. Cournyer:

RE: DOR 16-29

The Department of Health has completed its review of your exemption request for Forks Community Hospital to increase its total number of swing beds from 17 to 25. 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 May 10, 2016
- Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 70.38
- Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 246-310
- Department of Health Integrated Licensing and Regulatory System (ILRS) data
- Certificate of Need Program historical files

**FACTS CONSIDERED**

- Forks Community Hospital is a Critical Access Hospital located at 530 Bogachiel Way in Forks, within Clallam County [98331].
- The hospital is currently licensed for 45 acute care beds. Below is a breakdown, by type, of the 45 licensed beds.

<b>Number of Beds</b>	<b>Services</b>
25	General Medical Surgical
20	Long-Term Care (nursing home)
<b>45</b>	<b>Total Licensed Beds</b>

- Included within the 25 general medical surgical beds are 17 swing beds as defined in Washington Administrative Code 246-310-010(58).<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Swing beds are designated by an eligible rural hospital and are available to provide either acute care or nursing home services.

- This project proposes to increase the number of swing beds by eight. The total number of swing beds would increase from 17 to 25.
- The number of long term care beds at the hospital would decrease by eight. The total number of long term care beds would decrease from 20 to 12.
- The total number of licensed beds would decrease from 45 to 37. Below is a breakdown, by type, of the 37 licensed beds.

<b>Number of Beds</b>	<b>Services</b>
25	General Medical Surgical
12	Long-Term Care (nursing home)
<b>37</b>	<b>Total Licensed Beds</b>

- All 25 general medical surgical beds would be swing beds as defined in Washington Administrative Code 246-310-010(58).
- There are three nursing homes located in Clallam County. Two are located in Sequim and one in Port Angeles.<sup>2</sup> Forks Community Hospital's long term care beds are licensed by the hospital under Revised Code of Washington 70.41.

### **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

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<sup>2</sup> Avamere Olympic Rehabilitation of Sequim and Sequim Health and Rehabilitation Center are both located in Sequim. Crestwood Health and Rehabilitation Center is located in Port Angeles.

Tim Courner, RN Chief Executive Officer  
Forks Community Hospital  
DOR #16-29  
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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  
Eric Prosser, Consulting Project Manager