

February 17, 2021

**RECEIVED** 

By CERTIFICATE OF NEED PROGRAM at 2:13 pm, Feb 23, 2021

Eric Hernandez, Program Manager Certificate of Need Program Department of Health PO Box 47852 Olympia, WA 98504-7852

**DOR21-26** 

Dear Mr. Hernandez:

Northwest Kidney Centers ("NKC") is proposing to relocate **NKC Port Angles Kidney Center** and requests a determination of non-reviewability (DNR) in accordance with WAC 246-310-050. The relocation is necessary because the existing space in the current clinic on Georgiana Street has outlived its useful life. Key issues: The building entrance is not ideal for emergency vehicles as the area is tight when parking is full, we are lacking room to upgrade our water system, the two-story building makes home training a challenge (even though we have an elevator) and we lack adequate support space for staff. And finally, we have the opportunity to create a state-of-the-art new treatment facility expand our CKD education offering and bring great value to the patients in this planning area.

We believe the proposed relocation satisfies the criteria in WAC 246-310-830(4) and is therefore not the establishment of a new health care facility and not subject to Certificate of Need review. We have had a consult call with Karen on this project (February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021) and this submission is a follow-up to that phone call.

The <u>existing</u> NKC Port Angeles Kidney Center is located at: NKC Port Angeles Kidney Center 809 Georgiana Street Port Angeles, WA 98362

The <u>proposed</u> new facility (that will carry the same name and stations) will be located at:

NKC Port Angeles Kidney Center 707 South Chase Street Port Angeles, WA 98362

(Note – it is possible the City of Port Angeles may change this address depending on parking lot access).



The existing NKC Port Angeles Kidney Center has a total of 10 in center stations. The proposed NKC Port Angeles Kidney Center (1.1 miles away) will also have 10 stations upon project completion and a more efficient Home Training area (for both Peritoneal and Home Hemodialysis training), CKD education for outreach to the community, a state-of-the-art water system, power generator during storms and enhanced natural light and views for the patients/staff.

Upon approval and based on estimates of timing on construction of the new center (green field project – raw land development), we estimate that the new NKC Port Angeles Kidney Center would be operational by December 2022 with patients and staff moving in January 2023.

Table 1

NKC Port Angeles Kidney Center estimated Timeline	
Event	Est. Completed - Month/Year
DNR approved	April 2021
Design Complete	July 2021
Design review and permitting (City of Port Angeles)	August 2021
Construction Commenced	September 2021
Construction Completed	September 2022
New NKC Port Angeles Kidney Center is Operational	December 2022
Staff and Patients move to new center	January 2023

Source: Applicant

The proposed project is relocating the entire NKC Port Angeles Kidney Center within Clallam County ESRD Planning Area, and meets the following conditions:

- (a) (a) The existing kidney dialysis facility ceases operation after the relocation;
- (b) (b) No new stations are added to the replacement kidney dialysis facility. The maximum treatment floor area square footage as defined in WAC <u>246-310-800</u> (11)(a) is limited to the number of certificate of need stations that were approved at the existing facility;
- (c) (c) There is no break in service between the closure of the existing kidney dialysis facility and the operation of the replacement facility;
- (d) (d) The existing facility has been in operation for at least five years at its present location; and
- (e) (e) The existing kidney dialysis facility has not been purchased, sold, or leased within the past five years.



Based on the foregoing, we seek confirmation the proposed relocation satisfies the criteria in WAC 246-310-830(4) and does not require Certificate of Need review.

Enclosed is a check in the amount \$1,925 as payment of the Determination of Non-reviewability fee required under WAC 246-310-990.

**Austin Ross** 

Vice President of Planning

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