July 26, 2013
The Honorable George Jepsen
Attorney General
55 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Attorney General Jepsen:

We are writing to ask that you reconsider your determination that the CON application for the Vanguard acquisition of the Greater Waterbury Hospital Network Inc. is complete and that the process start anew. We believe that recent events substantively change the public record and call for increased scrutiny.

First, the proposed acquisition of Vanguard by Tenet has not been adequately addressed as part of the process and its potential impact on the quality of care, our communities, and the employees. Tenet has a long history of having to pay fines for the misuse of public programs and a questionable track record in communities where they have taken over hospitals.

Second, in the original filing (section 8.14), and in the 6/11/13 response filing, Vanguard makes clear that the deal was predicated on changes in Connecticut law that would allow stock corporations and other for-profit entities to own medical foundations that would employ physicians. Since Governor Malloy vetoed such legislation, it is clear that this criteria for the deal has not been met and a new filing would be needed.

In explaining the veto, the Governor pointed out the unknown Impact on our health system of for-profit hospitals taking over Connecticut hospitals. He called for a more thorough analysis and a better process than the vetoed legislation had been through. We believe the Governor was correct and that we need to make sure that there is a robust discussion about the future of Connecticut¹s hospitals before anything like the Tenet/Vanguard deal is approved.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact us at 860-233-2181.

Sincerely,

Tom Swan

Connecticut Citizens Action Group

Ellen Andrews

Connecticut Health Policy Project

c: Office of Governor Malloy, Commissioner Jewel Mullen