



NORTHERN ILLINOIS
PROTON TREATMENT
& RESEARCH CENTER

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NIPTRC Board moving forward with proton center
Economic conditions will not deter completion of vital mission

WEST CHICAGO, IL- The Northern Illinois Proton and Treatment Research Center (NIPTRC) board of managers met today and confirmed that, although the crisis in the financial sector has affected construction projects across the country, they will keep moving forward with timely completion of the center at the DuPage National Technology Park in West Chicago.

“The economic crisis we face is of global proportions, and we look for swift action by Congress and President Obama to stabilize markets as well as free up capital,” said Executive Director John Lewis. “No one has been immune to the problems in the tax-exempt bond market, and this includes NIPTRC and everyone in the healthcare sector. Despite the external issues, we will continue to move ahead by utilizing our interim financing on the construction as well as planning for the completion of this project.”

Construction is well underway and continues with millions of dollars already expended. All preliminary utility and foundation work has been completed on the center. Massive earth moving and excavation has already taken place, and pylons have been drilled 60 feet into the ground to support 12 foot thick concrete walls. Furthermore, the 220 ton cyclotron used in the treatment of patients is well under construction in Germany.

NIPTRC is a tax-exempt entity that will offer proton therapy, an advanced and highly effective form of radiation therapy currently unavailable in Illinois; the noninvasive therapy is the treatment of choice for certain pediatric and adult cancers.

NIPTRC is working with NIU and physicians from the Northwestern Medical Faculty Foundation who will provide clinical and educational services to patients and researchers from Fermilab and Argonne National Lab who will advance the field of proton therapy.

NIPTRC’s unique holistic cancer care mission will provide patients with services that include nutrition, speech pathology, physical therapy, family counseling and tutoring for pediatric patients. NIPTRC is also committed to charity care and is scheduled to begin treating patients and providing training for particle therapy specialists.

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