

**From:** [Candyce Bongiorno](#)  
**To:** [Sally Ross](#)  
**Cc:** [Alan Goldich](#); [Kristy Winser](#)  
**Subject:** Fair Acres Historic SDU Variance  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 21, 2022 12:20:25 PM

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Sally,

Thank you for taking the time to speak with us on the phone this morning. We'd like to take the opportunity to expand on our concerns.

We are aware of the special allowances for historic-registered properties. The Babyaks applied for a variance to allow them to build a dwelling larger than and further away from the existing dwelling because of their unique circumstance. It appears that the County put the "cart before the horse" in that the owners were given a building permit **before** they were granted a variance to proceed with the project. The new dwelling is already under construction!

The reason we moved to a rural area almost 30 years ago is to enjoy the open space and get away from the city lights. The lights in outbuildings within the "historic" site encompass the entire buildings and are on throughout the night. *Those lights are not coming from the new construction site, as indicated in your email.* There are light restrictions that we believe are being violated.

The lights in the barn are alarming for other reasons. We feel there should be an investigation concerning this situation. If there is a marijuana growing operation in the buildings, whether the Babyaks have a permit or not, it presents a concern about potential criminal activity in our peaceful neighborhood. Several years ago, there was a growing operation in a dwelling in the Blacktail neighborhood. The owner was murdered and the plants were stolen. Here are links from the Steamboat Pilot concerning the incident: <https://www.steamboatpilot.com/news/routt-county-couple-arrested-on-first-degree-murder-charges/>  
<https://www.steamboatpilot.com/news/remains-identified-as-missing-longtime-routt-county-resident/>

Thank you for considering our concerns. We will be attending the hearing on December 27<sup>th</sup>.

Don and Candyce Bongiorno