

March 1, 2012

To the Orange County Planning Department and County Commissioners,

With regard to our appeal to the Board of Adjustment of the Planning Department's February 1, 2012 approval of the site plan for the UNC Animal Research Facility in Bingham Township, we respectfully request that the county waive the fees of \$540 for staff review and \$800 for advertising.

Though we received application forms for the appeal several weeks ago, neither appeal forms nor the Board of Adjustment web page refer to associated fees. We only learned of the fees today from staff upon preparing to submit the appeal. We ask you to consider waiving the significant fees for citizens who have already been impacted by unauthorized non-residential construction and illegal wastewater discharges on watershed land and previously undisclosed wetlands, in a residential zone.

Neighbors adjacent and in proximity to the UNC site have been negatively impacted by the facility's equipment failures and lack of oversight. Neighbors have not had the opportunity to comment through the Special Use permitting process on impacts of the University's failed wastewater systems and proposed new infrastructure. Much of the failed infrastructure was constructed without an updated approved site plan or Special Use Permit. When citizens requested greater county oversight and brought the issue to the attention of county commissioners, UNC administrators assured commissioners at the June 2, 2010 BOCC meeting that the University would apply for all required permits and would do so with transparency.

In the appeal we request that the Planning Department uphold its April 2010 determination, that according to county ordinance the University must apply for a Class A Special Use Permit for its wastewater system with a design capacity of more than 3,000 gallons per day. County citizens have already borne the costs of a failed facility with unauthorized construction in wetlands and unknown environmental and public health impacts of animal wastewater spills with little oversight by county officials. Please consider waiving appeal fees rather than increasing the burden on citizens residing near the UNC facility.

Sincerely,

Walt Lobotsky and Laura Streitfeld