



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

May 20, 2020

**May PC&EC Meeting Rescheduled to May 28, 2020**

**NORTH LITTLE ROCK**—The Pollution Control and Ecology Commission (PC&EC) originally scheduled for May 21, 2020, is postponed until 10 a.m. on Thursday, May 28, 2020, in the Commission Room at the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment (E&E) headquarters, 5301 Northshore Drive in North Little Rock. Agenda items for the PC&EC meeting include a report from the Director of the Division of Environmental Quality, a public comment period, a motion to adopt and make permanent a moratorium under Rule 5 and 6 for large and medium swine CAFO's in the Buffalo River watershed, a motion to initiate rulemaking for changes to Rule 23, a motion to adopt proposed changes to Rule 27, a motion to adopt proposed changes to Rule 19, and a request to adopt a recommended decision dismissing the appeal in the Matter of Donald Patterson; Docket No. 19-005-MISC.

Due to COVID-19, the Department of Energy and Environment (E&E) is exploring options to allow remote participation in an appropriate manner. In advance of the meeting, directions for remote participation will be posted online at: <https://www.adeq.state.ar.us/commission/> and <https://www.adeq.state.ar.us/>. For participants who choose to attend the meeting in person, E&E and PC&EC will ensure that all directives issued by the Secretary of the Arkansas Department of Health, Dr. Nate Smith, in consultation with Governor Asa Hutchinson, will be followed to keep COVID-19 controlled and residents and visitors in Arkansas safe. At this time, those directives include:

Because of social distancing directives and space limitations, attendance in the Commission Room shall be limited to no more than fifteen people. Entrance and exiting E&E headquarters and the Commission Room will be controlled and monitored in order to maintain a distance of six feet between people and limit the number of people in the building. Public participants may be directed to remain in their vehicles until authorized to enter the building. Seating shall be arranged in order to maintain a six-foot distance between members of the public and the Commissioners. Seating in the Commission room will be arranged in order to provide for six feet of physical distancing. Face coverings are required for all persons who enter E&E headquarters and the Commission Room, except for children under ten years of age who are exempt.

Prior to entering E&E headquarters, individuals may be monitored for fever, and will be questioned to determine whether they have: fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, or loss of taste or smell, or if they have had known exposure to someone with COVID-19 in the past fourteen days or have any underlying health conditions including high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, or weakened immunity.

Prior to entering E&E headquarters and the Commission Room, individuals will be required to use the hand sanitizer stations.

These provisions are subject to change and will be based on the Governor's directives in force at the date of the scheduled meeting.

A copy of the full agenda for the meeting, including links to various documents associated with agenda items, can be found online: <https://www.adeq.state.ar.us/commission/agenda.aspx>.

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