Dear ADEQ,

I hope that you will please take time to read my concerns.

I am very worried about the draft approval of the modification of the permit request by EC hog farms to spread hog waste on fields around the county. I think they should absolutely be required to apply for a new and separate permit for each land application site.

Under the current moratorium on any new swine CAFO permits in the Buffalo River Watershed, I understand that to issue a separate permit to EC farms would be prohibited. Is this modification a way to skirt around this moratorium by modifying another permit? Why would ADEQ want to facilitate this?

Does this permit allow 6 million gallons of waste to be spread annually?

I have lived near the headwaters of the East Fork of the Little Buffalo River for 38 years. I have traveled all over the world. Each time I go on a journey and come home, I am so grateful for the clear and beautiful waters that we have in this part of the state and in my own backyard. It is very rare. I feel safe to drink my well water. I feel safe to swim in the Little Buffalo River. I have a small retreat center where people visit from all over the U.S. and the world. They are all impressed with our clear, free flowing waters. I am heartbroken to even think of the possibility of these waters being degraded by the swine waste. I have seen small rivers like this covered with algae. Please don't let this happen to the Little Buffalo which is the main tributary of the Buffalo National River. ADEQ, I understand that your stated purpose is to protect Arkansas's most precious natural resourses. Please stand up for doing this in this situation before it is too late. Thank you for taking the time to read this and for your consideration of what I have expressed. Kind regards, Ann Lasater

Kind regards, Ann Lasater River Spirit Retreat HC 72, Box 85 Parthenon, Arkansas 72666 870-446-5642

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