

To Whom It May Concern:

I oppose the industrial hog farm from its inception to any expansion of operations. I certainly oppose expanding the spreading of wastes over expanded areas.

The initial approval failed to comply with the National Environmental Act and the results damage the environment of one of Americas precious national treasures.

The initial environmental assessment failed to notify appropriate federal agencies including the National Park Service. Therefore proper scientific and cultural and economic impacts were

never made part of the public record and evaluation as required by law.

Lands acquired by eminent domain should be appropriately protected under law. What happened to the public interest sufficiently significant to override private property rights?

Numerous local businesses, families and communities rely on the income of serving recreational users of the Buffalo National River. NEPA should identify these various interests, but by ignoring proper application of NEPA many such valuable interests are not adequately considered.

Watershed protection is necessary for protection of the quality of the Buffalo River. As such, it is inexcusable to prohibit, limit and ignore important, high quality scientific studies of leachate. Limestone base and karst drainage characteristics cause legitimate concerns, but restrictive studies seem designed to avoid rigorous, careful analysis.

I am a user of the Buffalo River for decades so that I feel a keen personal loss of a pristine outdoor adventure experience. My family has enjoyed a

number of overnite camping and floating trips along the entire length of the Buffalo. Each was a treasured time & consider part of our family wealth. On a four day float, for instance, we traversed the 20,000 Acre Wilderness, the largest wilderness designated area between here and the East Coast. The clear, clean waters were the heart of our journey - the "reason for being" of the nations first national river. My family grew closer to one another and to nature on these trips. My son gained self-

confidence, joy of life, and many skills that led him to serve others as a health professional. Sadly, current families will be more cautious to experience waters so tainted with hog wastes. What will you tell future generations was gained to justify such degradation of a national treasure and America's quality of life?

Lastly I must speak with less knowledge of the plants and wildlife that have had a home in the Buffalo River.

Please do not design pseudo-scientific

studies. Public reporting suggests studies should be much better designed. Ongoing monitoring is truly only harmful when it masks true impacts. The fish and wildlife cannot speak for themselves, so we must speak for them. But eventually their truth will be told. Lets get it right first-now.

Shut down this industrial hog farm now. Undertake full compliance with NEPA. Allow public comments after presenting the facts fully. The Buffalo National River is entitled to the

highest degree of environmental protection -
including the local economies so reliant
on the water quality. If we fail to
comply with the letter and spirit of
the law protecting a treasured resource,
then we will suffer a lack of enforcement
of all other protections of our
environment.

Thank You.

Respectfully,
Jerry Rephan

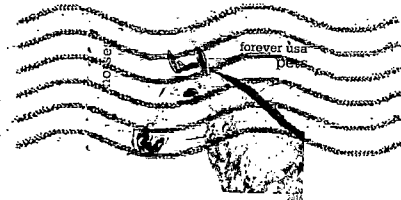
Jerry Rephan
831 Quapan Ave.
Hot Springs, AR 71901
501-276-0785



Mr. Jerry Rephan
831 Quapaw Avenue
Hot Springs, AR 71901-3913

LITTLE ROCK AR 722

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^{Ms}
Katherine Williams, ADEQ
5301 Northshore Dr
North Little Rock AR
72118

72118-5301799

