

**From:** [quecher@gmail.com](mailto:quecher@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Water Draft Permit Comment](#)  
**Subject:** [BULK] Public comment on Buffalo River CAFO permit  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:02:57 AM

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I would like to submit a comment on the operations permit up for renewal on C&H hog farm, located in the Buffalo River watershed. The runoff and seeping of liquid hog waste into the Buffalo River, the nation's first National Scenic River, is unacceptable. Everyone we know has floated the Buffalo in the summer, many going multiple times over the years. We would like to continue enjoying this recreation spot without thinking about how much hog waste is being added to the water that we had floated, swam, and dove into. But the mere thought of where the CAFO is located, and how they dispose of hog waste by spraying it onto fields that are underlain by porous rock overlooking the river, is enough to keep us away. We have not returned since I learned of the CAFO.

How many tourism and recreation jobs in the area are at risk from the continued operations of the CAFO, and how does that compare to the number of people employed at the CAFO? I would bet that a full economic analysis would show that the tourism and recreation industry along the Buffalo River outweighs the benefits of having 1 CAFO in the watershed.

Analyzing the public health and environmental impacts would clearly favor a Scenic River unpolluted by a CAFO. Not to mention the schoolkids exposed to hog waste aerosols from spraying fields in the vicinity of a public school.

Since this is the first time since the CAFO began operations that the public has had a chance to comment, the permit should be, at the very least, delayed until a full environmental impact assessment is done, with baseline data from the time before the CAFO was built. Cooperation with other organizations may be necessary to obtain this data, if the ADEQ never collected baseline data. The full report of the assessment should be made public, with the permit renewal contingent on its results and a public comment period. Only then will all of the trade offs of allowing a CAFO to operate in the Buffalo River watershed be clear. Perhaps then, plans for remediation could also be drawn up. This would reassure my family that we could eventually return to the Buffalo for recreation.

Jennifer Wang  
Little Rock

Sent from my iPhone