From: <u>Ellen McNulty</u>

To: Water Draft Permit Comments
Subject: NPDES General Permit ARG590000
Date: Wednesday, April 13, 2016 12:48:31 PM

I'm writing to oppose the renewal of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit (ARG590000) that was published on March 15, 2016 in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette for eligible operators of Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) in the State of Arkansas. The General Permit is unacceptable for a large scale CAFO located in the Buffalo River watershed. The area is highly fractured soluble limestone rock (i.e. Karst) that drains via surface and groundwater directly into our Nation's first designated National River, the Buffalo National River. I took my first float and fishing trip on the Buffalo River as a twelve-year-old and have returned to the area many times over the years as many other Arkansans and others across the globe. Tourism dollars are important to this area of Arkansas and CAFOs should not be permitted in areas that contain a fragile karst landscape. We must protect Arkansas' special areas from contamination. There are other areas that are better suited to handle the large amount of waste associated with large scale CAFOs. There has been too much opposition and too many tax payer dollars spent on the C and H Farms CAFO. The general permit is lacking in providing protection of Arkansas' special places and, if renewed, may damage other vulnerable areas.

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