## ADEQ Staff,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this application for modification, but I would also urge you to hold a public hearing in addition. The matter is of great importance, and allowing a public hearing might well help better answer the many concerns that are associated with the modification proposal.

As you know, the removal of sludge from the current ponds is a critical process. If sludge remains in the clay beds and a liner is placed over, methane gas below can compromise or rupture the liner. What steps are being taken to guarantee that will not happen? Is there experience with other ponds that are being lined after having held sludge for 2 years?

Is flaring the methane gas the best option? Are other options being considered, like capturing the gas, cleaning and using it on or off site? Will the burning, if allowed, produce sulfate pollutants?

I know you have your hands full dealing with this C&H CFO, but I urge you to take your time on this and consider the details that may come back to haunt us if not dealt with properly.

With warm regards and appreciation for your hard work for Arkansas' environment and people.

Don House

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