From: <u>Jared Corn</u>

To: Water Draft Permit Comments
Cc: stephen.hoggen@adeq.state.ar.us

Subject: Hog farm approval above Big Creek in Newton County, Arkansas

Date: Monday, March 04, 2013 8:15:02 PM

Mr. Hoggen,

This message is hopefully one of many to protest ADEQ's recent decision to approve a large-scale commercial hog farm in Newton County just above Big Creek, a tributary to the Buffalo National River. I'm not sure if you have ever been to this area, but it is a true symbol of what makes Arkansas the Natural State, with rivers so clear you can see to the bottom With its fragile caves, soaring cliffs, and carved wilderness that shows the best of God's Handiwork.

I would hope ADEQ and other members of Arkansas state government would do all they could to protect it. Protecting it just the same as those in the 1970's who saved the Buffalo from being dammed.

Let me be clear: I am not against any farming business in the state of Arkansas, but positioning a farm of this size this close to a national river will cause damage that is irreversible. I say it will because it is only a matter of time until overflow measures are surpassed, that runoff will leak into Big Creek. With something as pristine as the Buffalo River, I would hope ADEQ would not leave that to systems which have been proven to fail in the past. Simply refuse the permit where it is now, and allow the operation to be built outside of the BNR watershed and away from the Ozark National Forest.

Stephen, I am not an Arkansas resident, but I and my family have grown to love that River and travel to it many times a year. Please see how this does not only affect Newton County or even Arkansas at this point, but how it affects those who travel to the Buffalo from across our nation and hope to treasure it for many years to come. Consider your decisions now will *directly* impact all of those people and wildlife who call the Buffalo home.

Respectfully,

Jared Corn countyd8@hotmail.com