

Public Comment Registration Card

10

Date 9-29-15

Verbal Comment Speaker #

Written Comment
(Attached or back of card)

Hearing Location Jasper

Name Jerry Masters

Address

City Dover State AR Zip Code 72857

E-mail Address arkport@yahoo.com

ADEQ
ARKANSAS
Department of Environmental Quality
www.adeg.state.ar.us

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

I'm Jerry Masters from Dover, AR. I represent the Arkansas Pork Producers Association, and I would like to thank ADEQ for the job that they do do protecting the environment in the state of Arkansas. I think that there is a lot of confusion tonight. And actually I'm confused because in the May Of 2014 people from corporate Cargill came to Arkansas and spent a week to study what was going on at C&H Hog Farm and to talk to the environmentalists who opposed it. They had meeting upon meeting, and I think many of you in this room met with them. And the concerns that came out of that meeting, all those meetings that they had, was concerns over pond leakage and concerns over air quality. They met with the owners of C&H Hog Farm and the industry. We didn't as an organization didn't particularly agree with what they came up with, but we support it. And they decided because of the requests from the activists and the environmental community that they needed to put synthetic liners in those ponds even though that clay liner works fine. There's not a problem with the clay liner. Also they came up with: we'll cover the first lagoon with a liner and we'll flare that off, so that if there're any issues with air quality that would satisfy the people who are opposing it tonight. That's really confusing to me because we're here tonight because many of you requested these things be done and now that C&H Hog Farm said okay we're going to do it. Now you're opposing it. And to be honest and blunt, that tells me that the only way many of you are going to be satisfied is when the padlock is put on the gate at C&H Hog Farm and is shut down. So let's just cut through the chase, it doesn't make any difference what we do to compromise with many of you in this room. You're not going to be satisfied. You're not going to be satisfied at all. So let's just cut through the chase, that's what it's all about. I want to stick up for my friends at C&H Hog Farm. I've represented this industry for twenty-six years, and I've represent a lot of producers across the state of Arkansas and the integrity of those folks at C&H Hog Farm it is so high, I'm proud to represent these folks. I'm very proud to represent them. They've followed the law of the land. They went through the law of Arkansas. They've got their permit put in. They followed everything they were to follow. And I'm going to cut through the chase again, its continual harassment on these folks. I would hate to be them to get up every morning to read the paper or listen to the news about what in them because most of them are half-truths. But any way, I wanted to set the record straight, we're here tonight for this public hearing because you all requested these changes and now you're opposing them. I'm still confused. Thank you.