From: <u>Karen Kimrey</u>

To: Water Draft Permit Comments

Subject: buffalo river protection from hog farm run off

Date: Friday, March 08, 2013 12:10:26 PM

my name is karen kimrey, i have lived in bothfayetteville and newton country for 40 years this coming summer and know the area around the buffalo river like the back of my hand.....as well as i know the white river near fayetteville. the white river near fayetteville that was ruined by run off from chicken houses.

my children are now adults but i took my kids there to swim daily when they were young and out of school for the summer. we'd go there for family cookouts and picnics year round. the kids loved exploring the rocks and trees and critters and water throughout the seasons... it was lovely, we spent so many happy days there. this all changed forever when chicken houses were built upstream.

first the water got increasingly murky and smelly. then algae blooms started happening, we began noticing dead fish where previously there were none. the water became smellier and murkier over time, the color of the water changed to an unnatural blue-green. by the next summer every time we swam in our beloved old swimming hole someone in our group would develop a bad ear infection. after this happened a few times we sadly made the decision we could no longer swim there.

please don't allow this to happen to the buffalo river! its a treasure to locals and a huge draw to tourists. pollution of this river will cost arkansans dearly in terms of history, culture, natural beauty, and tourist dollars. its insane to even contemplate trading all this for one more hog producing facility.

please please, i'm begging. do the right thing for all future generations to come, please protect the buffalo river against this degradation!

thank you for listening. respectfully, karen kimrey