

From: karenpanhorst@wildblue.net on behalf of [Karen Panhorst](#)
To: [Water Draft Permit Comments](#)
Subject: C&H Hog farm
Date: Sunday, July 07, 2013 2:43:35 PM

I am writing to respectfully ask you to work with the owners of C&H Hog Farms, Inc. in Newton County, Arkansas, to find a more suitable location for the concentrated animal farrowing operation (CAFO), C&H Hog Farms, Inc. Because it is sited in the watershed of America's first national river, the Buffalo National River, I respectfully ask that you assist the CAFO owners, Jason Henson, Philip Campbell, and Richard Campbell, in moving C&H Hog Farm, Inc., from the Buffalo River Watershed.

I recognize that Cargill is not the owner of this CAFO, but as stated in the United States Department of Agriculture's Farm Services Agency's assessment and findings, the sole purpose of this CAFO is to produce hogs for Cargill. By working with the owners to move this CAFO out of this watershed, you honor Cargill's 2012 commitment to corporate responsibility which stated, "We are committed to feeding the world in a responsible way; reducing our environmental impact; and improving the communities where we live and work."

The incompatible location contradicts that commitment and threatens a primary economic driver in the Ozarks. Tourism in the Buffalo River Region creates 3,495 jobs and generates \$18.5 million in state taxes and \$5.9 million in local taxes*. This farm threatens those jobs, and while the farm's owner has stated he may be able to provide 10-12 jobs in the local economy, and generate a little over \$20,000 in taxes, it is hardly a fair trade off for the American public or the citizens of the Ozark Mountain Region.

The Buffalo National River is one of the few remaining unpolluted free flowing rivers in the lower 48 states. As a unit of the National Park System, it is afforded greater protection, and is part of a unique system of America's best places and our nation's first commitment to sustainable conservation. In addition to the inherent recreational, economic, and spiritual values of the Buffalo, it is beloved by the people of Arkansas and is entrusted to all American people to be protected for this and future generations. The Buffalo National River's purpose, as stated by Congress, is to be preserved, conserved, and interpreted as a clear, clean free flowing river. A Harris poll conducted in 2006 found the National Park Service to be the federal entity most admired by the American people, even edging out the Armed Forces and Social Security. A new poll completed in June 2012 shows that Americans strongly support their national parks, even in a time of economic downturn.

Please ask yourself, is this watershed really an appropriate location for large scale hog farming? I am not anti-farm or anti-farmer, but I believe it is important to protect America's natural, cultural, and historic resources and our national parks. I recognize that the operators have a lot to lose unless they work with you as their primary customer and the United States Department of Agriculture's Farm Services Agency as their primary loan partner to find a solution that allows the Henson and Campbell families to raise pork for Cargill in a place more suitable for large scale CAFO operations.

--

Karen Panhorst

e-PRO REALTOR®, IRES, CDPE, SFR
RE/MAX Best Choice
314-550-3144 cell
314-714-7316 fax
Karen@KarenPanhorst.com
www.KarenPanhorst.com
[What's My Home Worth? Click here.](#)

[Click here to Search Like an Agent?](#)

