

## JUL 6 2015

Marianne Engleman Lado Earthjustice – Northeast Office 48 Wall Street, 19<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10005 neoffice@earthjustice.org

RE: Response to Earthjustice's letter regarding C&H Hog Farms, Inc.

Permit Tracking No. ARG590001 AFIN 51-00164

Dear Ms. Lado:

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality received your comment dated June 15, 2015, regarding Ellis Campbell d/b/a EC Farms (Permit No. 3540-WR-6) request to land apply swine waste from C & H Hog Farm, Inc. The Department would like to offer the following responses.

EC Farms' permit will remain active until a termination request is received from the permittee. The animal feeding operation covered by the approved Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP), received May 17, 2011, was closed as stated in the letter dated March 17, 2014 from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). If the permittee constructs and operates a new animal feeding operation on the property, then the permittee would be required to submit a revised CNMP. In accordance with Reg. 5.305, a major modification will require the application and draft permit to be public notice for public comment in accordance with Reg. 5.302 and Regulation No. 8.

The permittee has the option to convert the existing permit into a land application site only permit in accordance with Regulation 5.601. In the letter dated April 8, 2015, EC Farms requested a minor modification for land application only. As outlined in the letter from the Department dated April 17, 2015, the permittee would be required to submit a revised CNMP, which would be a major modification subject to the public notice requirements set out in Reg. 5.3020 and Regulation No. 8. Reg. 5.601 details the requirements that a land application site only permit shall follow.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If there are any questions concerning this submittal, please contact John Bailey, Perm its Branch Manager in the Water Division, at (501) 682-0629 or by email at <a href="mailto:bailey@adeq.state.ar.us">bailey@adeq.state.ar.us</a>.

Sincerely,

Becky W. Keogh

Director

BWK:km

cc: Bob Allen, Arkansas Canoe Club (bob@ozarker.org)

Jack Stewart, Buffalo River Watershed Alliance (jampackl@mac.com)

Emily Jones, National Parks and Conservation Association (ejones@npca.org)

Robert Cross, Ozark Society (<u>racross@uark.edu</u>) Carl E. Wills, EPA, Region 6 (<u>Willis.carl@Epa.gov</u>) Willie Lane, EPA, Region 6 (Lane.willie@Epa.gov)