From: Gene Dunaway

To: <u>Water Draft Permit Comments</u>
Subject: Fwd: ADEQ news releases

**Date:** Friday, November 08, 2013 2:05:34 PM

Attachments: News Release Stormwater General Permit (2013 Nov 08).rtf

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I think any permitting moving forward must be consider in the light it is "post hog farm" and that the reputation of the Commission and ADEQ has suffered an embarrassing blow. That is too bad as I do not believe it reflects the aspirations of the Commission members or ADEQ staff. Therefore, there is something wrong with the regulatory process itself.

The questions for me are obvious.

Would the hog farm have been considered a general permit? I've never heard anyone explain how it got a permit in the first place, especially given the water discharge issues.

Would the hog farm have been permitted under the general permit as proposed. If so, this regulation needs to be changed.

I have heard attorney's speculate that a specific site permitted under a general permit cannot be appealed because the statute of limitations runs out when the general permit itself is approved. This should be changed. If it cannot, then general permitting itself should be abandoned and an individual permit issued on each site.

There should be a short public notice in the local newspaper when any discharge is taking place that is going to mingle with storm water. If something can go wrong, it will and neighbors should be informed so they can keep an eye out, since there is no continuous monitoring schedule by ADEQ.

Location, location, location. No general permits should be allowed within a safe distance of even a headwaters stream. As we know, natural processes can dilute or absorb some kinds of discharges as long as their is proper soil between the discharge and a water body.

The issue of pharmaceuticals and personal care products need to be addressed. As you are aware, there are minute quantities of these substances that are in our water even after processing through water treatment plants. Industries should be required to clean up their water to a standard that can be treated to avoid these problems in our drinking water or local wells.

Thank you Gene

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **NewsFromADEQ** < <u>newsfromadeq@adeq.state.ar.us</u> >

Date: Fri, Nov 8, 2013 at 11:44 AM Subject: ADEQ news releases

To: NewsFromADEQ < newsfromadeg@adeg.state.ar.us >

Attached is a news release, the text of which appears below, concerning a public hearing and meeting on the proposed renewal of a draft general permit for industrial storm water dischargers.

Contact Information: Katherine Benenati / 501.682.0821 / benenati@adeq.state.ar.us

FOR RELEASE: Nov. 8, 2013

PUBLIC HEARING, MEETING SET ON GENERAL PERMIT RENEWAL

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) will hold a public hearing Dec. 6, 2013, to receive comments on the proposed renewal of a Water Division general permit for storm water discharges involving industrial activity. The hearing will begin at 2 p.m. in the Commission Room at the ADEQ office, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock.

In addition to the formal hearing, an informational meeting on the draft permit renewal will be held Nov. 19, 2013, also in the ADEQ building's Commission Room, starting at 2 p.m.

The current general permit covering industrial storm water discharges is nearing its five-year expiration date.

A copy of the draft permit renewal is available for review on the ADEQ website at:

<a href="http://www.adeq.state.ar.us/water/branch\_permits/individual\_permits/pn\_permits/pnpermits.aspx">http://www.adeq.state.ar.us/water/branch\_permits/individual\_permits/pn\_permits/pnpermits.aspx</a>

Upon accessing the webpage, users should enter the general permit number, ARR000000, in the permit number box of the search feature.

Oral and written comments will be accepted at the hearing, but written comments are preferred in the interest of accuracy. In addition, written or electronic mail comments will be considered if received no later than 4:30 p.m. (Central Time) Dec. 9, 2013.

Written comments should be sent to Jamal Solaimanian, Water Division, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118. E-mail comments should be sent to <a href="mailto:Water-Draft-Permit-Comment@adeq.state.ar.us">Water-Draft-Permit-Comment@adeq.state.ar.us</a>.

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## **News Release**

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## Water General Permit, Page Two

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