

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission will hold a public hearing at El Dorado May 16, 2002, to receive comments on a third-party proposal by Great Lakes Chemical Company to change the Arkansas Water Quality Standards (PC&E Commission Regulation No. 2) for a section of Bayou de Loutre in Union County. The hearing will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Arkansas Oil and Gas Commission office, 2215 West Hillsboro, in El Dorado.

Sections 3.4.1 through 3.4.4 of PC&E Commission Regulation No. 8 (Administrative Procedures) , and Arkansas Code Annotated Section 8-4-202(c) provide that outside parties may petition the Commission to initiate the rulemaking process to adopt or amend regulations under the Commission's jurisdiction. Arkansas Code Annotated Section 8-4-201(3) authorizes the Commission to adopt water quality standards for the State of Arkansas.

The fact that the Commission has agreed to initiate the rulemaking process does not constitute an endorsement of the third-party proposal. The Commission will decide whether to adopt the proposed changes after the conclusion of the public comment period for the proposal and after Great Lakes and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality staff respond to all public comments submitted.

Great Lakes Chemical is seeking to change the temperature standard for a section of Bayou de Loutre beginning at the point where Great Lakes Outfall 001 enters the stream for a distance of approximately one-half mile downstream to Bayou de Loutre's confluence with Loutre Creek. The discharge consists primarily of non-contact cooling water, but includes smaller amounts of water from roof drains, boiler blowdown, steam condensate, air conditioning drains, reactor jacket water, and the plant's sanitary system.. The petition seeks to raise the temperature standard for the affected section of Bayou de Loutre from its current standard of 86 degrees Fahrenheit to 96 degrees Fahrenheit.

Detailed copies of the proposed changes, along with support documents, and summary information, are available for public inspection at the ADEQ's Building D, 8101 Interstate 30, in Little Rock, and in ADEQ information depositories located in public libraries at Magnolia, Camden, El Dorado, and Texarkana. In addition, summary information concerning the proposal is available at other ADEQ information depositories located in public libraries at Arkadelphia, Batesville, Blytheville, Clinton, Crossett, Fayetteville, Forrest City, Fort Smith, Harrison, Helena, Hope, Hot Springs, Little Rock, Mena, Monticello, Mountain Home, Russellville, Searcy, Stuttgart, and West Memphis; in campus libraries at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and the University of Central Arkansas at Conway; and in the Arkansas State Library located on the State Capitol grounds at Little Rock. Information concerning the proposed changes also can be viewed on the ADEQ's Internet web site at www.adeq.state.ar.us .

Oral and written comments on the proposed revisions will be accepted at the hearing, but

written comments are preferred in the interests of accuracy. In addition, written and electronic mail comments will be accepted if received no later than 4:30 p.m. May 31, 2002. Written comments should be sent to Doug Szenher, public affairs supervisor, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 8913, Little Rock, AR 72219-8913. Electronic mail comments should be sent to the following Internet address: reg-comment@adeq.state.ar.us .

Dated this 29th day of March, 2002,

**Richard A. Weiss, Interim Director,
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality**