

NOTICE OF PROPOSED THIRD-PARTY RULEMAKING, PUBLIC HEARING

The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission (PC&EC) will hold a public hearing at Stamps, Arkansas, July 21, 2005, to receive comments on a third-party proposal by Entergy Arkansas, Inc., (Entergy) to change the Arkansas Water Quality Standards (PC&EC Regulation No. 2) for an unnamed tributary to Lake June in Lafayette County. The hearing will begin at 6:00 p.m. at Stamps City Hall, 207 East Antigo Street.

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

The fact that the PC&EC has agreed to initiate such rulemaking procedures does not constitute an endorsement of the third-party proposal. The PC&EC will decide whether to adopt the proposed changes after the conclusion of the public comment period for the proposal and after Entergy and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) staff respond to all public comments submitted.

Entergy operates the Harvey Couch steam electric generating plant, located about two miles east of Stamps. The plant discharges non-contact cooling water to an unnamed stream which flows into nearby Lake June. The discharge also includes low volume wastewater associated with steam condensate, roof drains, and air conditioning drains at the facility.

During warm weather, the plant's discharge exceeds the facility's current discharge permit limit and Lake June's water quality standard for temperature of 86 degrees Fahrenheit (F). Entergy has petitioned the PC&EC to change the water quality standard for the unnamed tributary to 95 degrees F. The petition does not seek a change in any designated use for Lake June or the unnamed tributary.

Entergy has submitted a detailed report including monitoring data for water quality and aquatic life as part of its documentation in support of its petition to change Regulation No. 2.

Detailed copies of the proposed regulation change, along with support documents and summary information, are available for public inspection at the ADEQ's Little Rock office in the Public Outreach and Assistance Division, Building D, 8101 Interstate 30; at Stamps City Hall, 207 East Antigo Street; and in ADEQ information depositories located in public libraries at Camden, El Dorado, Hope, Magnolia, and Texarkana, and at the Arkansas State Library on the State Capitol grounds in Little Rock. 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, Hot Springs, Jonesboro, Little Rock, Mena, Monticello, Mountain Home, Pocahontas, Russellville, Searcy, Stuttgart, and West Memphis; and in campus libraries at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and the University of Central Arkansas at Conway.

Information concerning the proposed changes also can be viewed and downloaded at the ADEQ's Internet web site at the following URL address: www.adeq.state.ar.us .

Oral and written comments on the proposed change to Regulation No. 2 will be accepted at the hearing, but written comments are preferred in the interests of accuracy. In addition, written or electronic mail comments will be accepted if received no later than 4:30 p.m.. August 4, 2005. Written comments should be sent to Doug Szenher, public/media affairs manager, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, Public Outreach and Assistance Division, P.O. Box 8913, Little Rock, AR 72219-8913. Electronic mail comments should be sent to the following address: reg-comment@adeq.state.ar.us .

Dated this 31st day of May, 2005,

Marcus C. Devine, Director
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality