

From: Judy & Don [mailto:9waterfall9@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, June 16, 2014 4:44 PM
To: Reg-Comment
Subject: Permanent Ban on CAFO's in Buffalo River Watershed

To the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality:

I support a permanent ban on hog CAFO's in the Buffalo River Watershed.

In particular, I am incredulous that ADEQ and Cargill would even consider supporting a hog CAFO in the environmentally sensitive Buffalo National River watershed, along a major tributary to this pristine river. The potential for pollution from this facility is inevitable especially in karst topography and in the midst of streams and tributaries to what many consider to be the most beautiful and pristine area in the central United States. This pollution has now been proven by scientific methods.

The existing CAFO and any future CAFO's are not only a danger to the public health through groundwater pollution and air pollution, but also to Federally recognized Endangered and Threatened Species in the caves, on the ground, in the air, and in the streams of the watershed. The health of our children whose school is virtually surrounded by planned containment fields for hog wastes, and any other schools where a CAFO is built will be affected.

Due to its pristine waters, its incredible beauty and wildlife, and all remnants of the past-unspoiled world, the Buffalo National River is considered sacred by many. People from all over America and all around the world come to the pristine waters of the Buffalo, our state's prime national attraction and scenic treasure, for fishing, canoeing, kayaking, camping, swimming, bird watching and sightseeing. However, the smell and waste run-off from this living animal factory already repel and horrify tourists and will only become worse as the toxic pollutants accumulate in all areas surrounding the factory farm.

The water quality of our first national river, the Buffalo, must be maintained and protected for human health as well as the health of the environment. Arkansas is called the Natural State, and its unique treasures are something worth protecting. Once this exquisite watershed is polluted, its unique ecology and the species that depend upon their health will be gone forever. Forever.

Surely a supposedly environmentally aware organization such as ADEQ and a multinational corporation such as Cargill can revisit your decisions and instead join the others who wish to steadfastly insist on protection of the Buffalo National River and its magnificent environment.

Thank you for respecting the Buffalo River Watershed.

Sincerely,

Judith Ann Griffith

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