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Sent: Monday, June 16, 2014 3:44 PM
To: Reg-Comment
Cc: 'ddoss@conwaycorp.net'; 'bob@ozarker.org'
Subject: Prevention of Future CAFOs in the Buffalo River Watershed

I am writing to voice my opposition to the establishment of any future CAFOs in the Buffalo River watershed. Industrial sized animal farms pose an imminent threat to one of the state's greatest resources. Despite dubious insurances to the contrary catastrophic failure of a containment pond is likely (consider incidents in North Carolina) and would have devastating consequences for the Buffalo and the White. In addition to the eventual holding pond failure, leakage of nutrient load into the watershed via the porous karst bedrock is inevitable.

In correspondence to the ADEQ the ADH has already expressed concern that C&H's land application sites could introduce e coli and cryptosporidium into the watershed, and the damage to aquatic life from a catastrophic containment pond breach would take a massive toll on tourism which would adversely impact a large percentage of the state's economy. Consider all the outfitters and guides who operate within the watershed and downstream on the White who bring in millions of tourism dollars in Arkansas. In 2012 the Buffalo alone accounted for nearly 1.1 million tourists, generated \$43.78 million and 610 jobs. What positive impact would CAFOs have on Arkansas's economy? If the C&H example is any indication little to none.

In addition to the adverse impact on tourism dollars more CAFOs would precipitate a decline in quality of life for surrounding communities. In other states with CAFOs adjacent landowners have reported depreciations in property values, and residents and establishments near C&H have complained of foul smells that didn't previously exist.

It is in the public interest, which it is your department's responsibility to serve, that no additional CAFOs ever be permitted in an area so culturally and environmentally sensitive as the Buffalo River watershed. The fact that even one was allowed to stealthily insinuate itself into the region is unconscionable, but more wrongs won't make a right.

Thank you for your time.

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