

**From:** Marie Mainard O'Connell [mailto:kmarie.mainardoconnell@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2014 2:28 PM

**To:** Reg-Comment

**Subject:** written comments on Buffalo River swine operations

Dear Mr. Doug Szenher,

Greetings! I am writing to express my concern over any plans to permit swine production along the Buffalo River. I do not think this area is suitable for development or business of this sort, of any size. I have fond memories of floating, canoeing and fishing the clear waters of the Buffalo as a child, and I enjoy the area as an adult as well. Knowing that a hog farm was in production anywhere upstream of my recreation would seriously inhibit me from taking myself or my children or my church groups to the Buffalo for recreation.

In addition, looking at the scientific factors of the area, I do not think such a proposal is in the best interests of the natural area as well. Hog farms produce a substantial amount of waste, unable to be perfectly maintained in holding ponds--any run off or spillage during flooding would put the entire river at risk for contamination from fecal matter. This cannot be allowed.

Furthermore I understand the underlying rock formations of the Buffalo River to be of the porous variety, including sandstone, which would permit runoff from waste ponds (bacteria, parasites, nutrients, fecal matter) and hog-land to permeate the underground substrate and contaminate surrounding land through underground waterways.

Simply put, the potential economic advantage to a private developer cannot outweigh the very likely damage to the public health, the general recreational/tourism economy and water quality should this business ever experience any overflow or contamination issues.

I am very sorry that I cannot express any approval of a business plan that involves swine farming and production along the Buffalo River. Please do not approve this operation for construction. Please confirm that you have received this email, although I understand you may be too busy to comment at this time.

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Peacefully,

Rev. Marie Mainard O'Connell

First Presbyterian Church, Little Rock

800 Scott Street,

Little Rock, AR 72201