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Notice of Proposed Rule Changes and Extension of Comment Period

The Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment, Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has proposed amendments to Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission (APC&EC) Regulation 6: "Regulations for State Administration of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)" pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated § 8-1-203(b)(1)(A) and Arkansas Code Annotated § 8-4-202(a). Written comments by stakeholders and the public will be received and made a part of the record during the extended public comment period.

Pursuant to APC&EC Rule 8, DEQ by this notice solicits comments of any interested party to the proposed rule amendments by submitting comments in writing on or before the end of the public comment period, which has been extended to September 16, 2024. Written and electronic mail comments will be considered if received no later than 4:30 p.m., Central Time, September 16, 2024. Written comments should be delivered or mailed to: Carol Booth, Department of Energy and Environment, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118. Submit electronic comments on the proposed rule amendments: comment@adeq.state.ar.us.

The proposed amendment to Regulation 6, "Regulations for State Administration of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)" include:

- Incorporation of Updates to Federal Regulations. Amendments to Regulation 6.104 to incorporate changes made to federal regulations;
- Incorporation of Updates to Arkansas Law. Acts 94 and 575 of 2015, Acts 987 and 1037 of 2017,
 315 and 910 of 2019, Act 441 of 2021, and Act 46 of 2023, were enacted by the Arkansas General Assembly and require revisions to Regulation 6;
- Amendments to Provide Clarification and Minor Corrections. Corrections to the rule, including
 adding necessary definitions and corrections to be consistent with other state rules;
- Amendments to Chapter 6. To amend Chapter 6 to be consistent with the Department of Agriculture's rule for Liquid Animal Waste Management Systems; and

• **Stylistic and Formatting Corrections.** To make minor, non-substantive stylistic and formatting corrections throughout the regulation.

A complete listing of the proposed changes to Regulation 6 can be found on the "Draft Rules" page of the DEQ's website: https://www.adeq.state.ar.us/regs/draft_regs.aspx under APC&EC Docket No. 24-003-R.

The deadline for submitting written comments on the proposed rule revisions is 4:30 p.m., Central Time, September 16, 2024.

Published August 31st and September 1st, 2024.

Bailey Taylor, Chief Administrator of Environment, Division of Environmental Quality Director, Department of Energy and Environment