

March 12, 2016

Jim Wise

Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality

Water Division 5301 Northshore Drive

North Little Rock, AR 72118-5317

Dear Jim Wise and Director Keogh,

The National Park Service (NPS) requested that three tributaries of the Buffalo National River be placed on the "Impaired Waterbodies" list pursuant to Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act.

Yet the ADEQ declined to do so despite the abundance of data from the National Park Service and the United States Geological Survey (USGS). I request that the three streams, Big Creek, Mill Creek and Bear Creek be placed on the 2016 impaired list.

ADEQ has a responsibility to follow up on warnings of impairment from long and trusted sources such as the National Park Service and USGS.

ADEQ needs to take heed of the submitted warnings, increase its monitoring of these streams, and take all the steps necessary to determine the sources of impairment and then eliminate their impact on the Buffalo National River. All the data collection being done by various groups needs to be considered.

I feel that the ADEQ not only has a responsibility here, but also that not following up is a form of encroachment upon these streams. I also feel that the ADEQ, by not taking this responsibility, is not doing all that they have agreed to do. I also feel that my state, our state, Arkansas, has too often gone in this negative direction, causing stress on our rivers and creeks.

Name Blake E. Clark

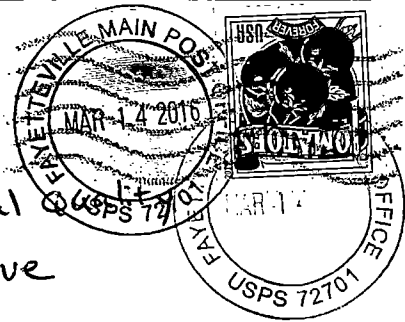
Signature *Blake E. Clark*

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Thank you.

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