

From: [Scott Stanley](#)
To: [WaterbodyComments](#)
Subject: Poisoning of the Buffalo River
Date: Thursday, September 6, 2018 12:13:56 PM

Waterbody Action Committee Members:

We have been hiking around and swimming in the Buffalo River all of our lives. For the last 20 years we have owned property within a mile of the river. We have seen the river every year at the same times. This year the river began developing algae in June. It normally does this in late August.

Some will blame it on the rainfall and that is certainly a factor. This cannot be controlled.

Some will blame it on tourists relieving themselves in the river. This cannot be controlled.

The ecosystem of the river is a delicate balance. We must mitigate the risk of damage by controlling those negatives influences that are readily controlled.

The CAFO has a risk of sudden discharge via sink hole.

The CAFO spreads a disproportionate level of nutrients on fields in the watershed. It is more than the ecosystem can digest without a negative impact. This river is so fragile that these increased nutrients can easily tip the balance from clear water to green algae water. It is analogous to eating a piece of rat poison every day. The daily dose will not kill you. In the long term there will be a very negative impact.

The Karst terrain will cause the nutrients to be stored and leached over a long period of time. It may take years to realize the true influence of a CAFO and then possibly many more for the negative nutrients to leach out of the equation.

CAFOs in the watershed, built on Karst terrain are an unnecessary risk that can be easily eliminated. I request that you act on behalf of our citizens and tourist related businesses and eliminate the risk of the CAFO.

The entire process of the CAFO approval was shady. Proper public notices was not executed. Die tracing was not done by the CAFO. They have not provided an emergency response plan.

The plant employs less than 20 people and risks the livelihood for thousands of Arkansans and recreational usefulness for all US citizens. The state has spent over a million dollars trying to defend the CAFO, and prove the science of the CAFO. The factory has turned into corporate welfare that we Arkansans subsidize with our tax dollars and the destruction of recreation opportunities.

In the absence of the worst case scenario the CAFO studies will not be a binary answer (yes it causes harm or no harm caused). These are analog systems that happen over long periods of time. Once the evidence becomes binary it is too late. The commission is making decisions that are not fully understood and will have greater impact on our children. The precautionary principle should

have been applied from the outset.

Please take every step possible to close the CAFO and eliminate this risk to our precious Buffalo River. Define and mandate safe disposal techniques or do not allow CAFO factories.

Thank you for protecting our health and our beautiful state.

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Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10