

May 29th, 2014

APCEC
101 E. Capitol Ave., Suite 205
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Members of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission,

The attached resolution is submitted on behalf of the Arkansas Audubon Society, a statewide organization committed to fostering a greater knowledge of the natural history of Arkansas and promoting conservation of natural resources in Arkansas. We present this resolution to demonstrate our support of the third-party rule proposed by the Ozark Society and Arkansas Public Policy Panel to prohibit the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality from allowing future permits in accordance with Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission Regulation Numbers 5 and 6.

The Buffalo River is a state and national treasure. Since its establishment in 1972, countless people have relied on the river and surrounding region for recreation, a source of income, and a place to call home. The unique offerings of the area exist in large part due to the ecological diversity and integrity of the watershed. Concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) threaten water quality via the disposal of their liquid waste through land application and surface storage, which can lead to contamination of nearby streams and rivers, especially in karst topography such as that surrounding the Buffalo River.

As such, we urge the APCEC to adopt the third party rule mentioned above in order to protect the waters, soils, plants, and animals that makes the Buffalo River an exceptional natural resource for people, plants, and wildlife alike.

Regards,



Maureen R. McClung
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Arkansas Audubon Society
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Cc via email:
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
Governor Mike Beebe
David Maclennan, President and CEO of Cargill, Inc.

A Resolution of the Arkansas Audubon Society

Whereas, the Buffalo National River is a unique and irreplaceable resource that is the pride of Arkansas;

Whereas, maintaining the value of the extraordinary scenic, recreational, wildlife, and tourist resources of the Buffalo River requires clean water and an unpolluted watershed;

Whereas, a major portion of the Buffalo River watershed is in a karst environment that is especially susceptible and vulnerable to water quality degradation;

And whereas, the presence of concentrated animal feeding operations is inimical to maintaining a high standard of water quality and an unpolluted watershed;

Be resolved that the Arkansas Audubon Society supports the permanent adoption of the third party rule (#14-002-R and 14-003-R) proposed to the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission to prohibit the permitting of any additional concentrated animal feeding operations in the Buffalo River watershed.

Resolved and approved by the Arkansas Audubon Society Board of Directors, May 2, 2014



Allan J. Mueller
President,
Arkansas Audubon Society