Dear Mr. Szenher:

In the past several decades, the way we eat has changed dramatically. Small scale, local farms have become increasingly rarer, their spots filled by giant corporations that have turned the entire industry into a business; their endeavor being only to make money. And that’s a huge problem. Lately, industrial-sized hog farms have appeared on the scene. The farms, which sometimes have as many hogs as people in the
county in which they are situated, pose both a threat to the environment and the people.

We support your proposed regulations that will prevent CAFOs (Congregated Animal Feeding Operations) from being built in the Buffalo River Watershed because any rainfall may cause feces to leak out and get into the river. When I (Micky) went to the Buffalo I floated down the river instead of riding in the canoe with Cherry. I wouldn’t want to do that, let alone ride in the canoe if the river was polluted.

Arkansas has many other rivers and springs known for their excellent, clean water and caves that we wouldn’t want to get polluted either. We drove past a CAFO and it made me feel bad for people that live near them because I couldn’t stand the stench! We went to the Buffalo as tourists and spent our money on a lot of things there, especially with the river outfitters. If you go through with these regulations and protect the Buffalo River, you will be saving jobs, wildlife, small family owned businesses and the local economy. Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Cherry Dzur, Micky Dzur and Stephanie Dzur

[letter composed by Cherry age 14 & Micky Dzur age 12, I concur and add my name as their parent, Stephanie Dzur]