Dear Mr. Szenher,

I want to voice my support for the proposed changes to Regulation 5 which place a limit on the size of CAFO operations in the Buffalo River watershed.

The karst terrain is a poor site for location of CAFO farms because of the high risk of groundwater pollution as well as generally poorer topsoil and high risk of nutrient pollution associated with surface stormwater runoff into area streams. Water quality, fish and wildlife, health of individuals, and the economy of the region have been put at risk unnecessarily.

While the ADEQ may argue that the permit was technically sufficient for the granting of a permit, the ADEQ must look beyond the letter because of uniqueness of a given site. This situation, among others such as with surface mining, points to the inadequacy of general permits as they are currently structured. This scenario is likely to play out again, only after an environmental or economic disaster.

Thank you for listening to and responding to public input.

Sincerely,

Sam Cooke