June 19, 2014

Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission
101 E. Capitol Ave., Suite 205
Little Rock, AR 72201

To whom it may concern,

Those of us old enough to remember black and white television, when the pig trail being the best way to get to Fayetteville and when Bill Clinton was referred to as governor might also recall that there were extensive studies of hog farms in the Buffalo River Watershed.

The mid-1990s studies done on hog farms in the Buffalo River watershed showed that those waste lagoons had minimal to no impact on groundwater because they did not leak. Those lagoons then being studied had been constructed in the 1970s. Modern farming setups, like C&H, are constructed using much more stringent engineering design standards.

If the ongoing research on C&H Hog Farm shows current regulatory requirements are not adequate, then the regulations can be modified to include additional permit requirements. This is a scientific approach. An outright prohibition based on the “potential” or “threat” is not a scientific approach.

Can’t we learn from our history? I think previous studies by the state of Arkansas demonstrates that farmers know best?

Sincerely,

Steve Simon

[Handwritten note: These farmers are doing a good job protecting the environment. Let’s enjoy some ham & bacon & let these guys farm.]