Director Keogh,

It is time to make the necessary changes and I approve of the change to Rule 5 and Rule 6 limiting the size of swine CAFO's and land applications in the Buffalo River watershed. The Rules are not restrictive enough, yet.

It has been a difficult time over the last years as I’ve watched a beautiful river turn into a sewer. I will never forget the times I was able to swim and snorkel, canoe and fish, or cool my feet in her (Buffalo River) waters. Those memories of a river and my past experiences are what I’ve dedicated the last few years to saving and will always be remembered with how quickly one pen stroke can change life forever.

It is not likely the Buffalo River will restore itself in my life time and I have missed the precious years of sharing her clear summer waters with my grandchildren as her polluted waters below Mill Creek and Big Creek were not standards I will risk their health to.

It is also disheartening that the sight has been lost. Many young adults have never seen Buffalo River waters sparkle or stones with color variations as fish swim in and out from under the rocks, they cannot even fathom what we have lost…with the stroke of a pen.

I encourage you to strengthen the Rules to not sell our state to industry but to preserve her for the citizens and to nurture what you love.

Sincerely,
Carol Bitting