

PRESS CONFERENCE ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 17, 2016

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Buffalo River Coalition to Comment on BCRET Report Delivered at APC&E Commissioners Meeting 6/24

LITTLE ROCK, AR – Members of the Buffalo River Coalition -- including the Ozark Society, the Buffalo River Watershed Alliance, and the Arkansas Canoe Club -- will hold a press conference at the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Amphitheater, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118 following the regular meeting of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology (APC&E) Commission on Friday June 24.

At the APC&E meeting the Big Creek Research and Extension Team (BCRET) is scheduled to deliver a presentation regarding whether it will conduct further

investigation into whether a “major fracture and movement of waste” exists beneath the waste ponds at the C&H Hog Farms in Mt. Judea. BCRET has a contract with ADEQ to evaluate the potential impact and sustainable management of the C&H operation on the water quality of Big Creek, a tributary feeding directly into the Buffalo National River.

The BRC will respond to BCRET’s presentation at the meeting, and comment on the importance of conducting exploratory drilling that would definitively confirm or disprove results of Electrical Resistivity Imaging (ERI) testing completed in March 2015 -- results interpreted by numerous geophysical experts as possible or likely swine waste discharge and which should be further investigated. These testing results were brought to light through emails obtained by the BRC through the Freedom of Information Act.

Attorney Richard Mays and representatives of the Buffalo River Coalition will be available to answer your questions at the conclusion of the press conference.

WHAT:

Buffalo River Coalition press conference to discuss recent scientific findings of possible leakage and discharge of swine waste at C&H Hog Farms which could contaminate groundwater and impact the Buffalo National River.

WHO:

Buffalo River Coalition members including:
Gordon Watkins, President, Buffalo River Watershed Alliance

Attorneys Richard Mays and Philip Kaplan

WHEN:

Friday June 24, immediately following the regular monthly meeting of the APC&E Commission (which begins at 9:00 am)

WHERE:

Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
Amphitheater
5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118

WHAT'S AT STAKE:

The pristine waters of the Buffalo National River, a national treasure enjoyed by approximately 1.3 million people each year, spending more than \$50 million in the surrounding communities, is threatened by an unprecedented 6500-swine CAFO producing waste equivalent to a city of 30,000 people and located just six miles upstream from the river.

For more information, please visit the Buffalo River Watershed Alliance
website: <http://buffaloriveralliance.org/>

A copy of the agenda for the APC&E meeting, including links to various documents associated with agenda items, is posted on the ADEQ/PC&E Commission website at:

[https://www.adeq.state.ar.us/downloads/commission/agenda/2016-06-24_Commission_Agenda\(with_Attachments\).pdf](https://www.adeq.state.ar.us/downloads/commission/agenda/2016-06-24_Commission_Agenda(with_Attachments).pdf)

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