



August 19, 2014

Mr. Gordon Watkins
The Buffalo River Watershed Alliance

Dear Gordon,

Thank you for personally contributing to our recent series of stakeholder meetings where we sought a variety of perspectives about the C&H hog farm situation in Newton County. As promised, we are writing to share our conclusions. As you are aware, we met with numerous individuals and organizations, heard many points of view and learned much about the understandable passion people have for the Buffalo National River in Northwest Arkansas.

Concurrent with our discussions, we evaluated many options and thoroughly analyzed the situation. As a corporate citizen with nearly 50 years as part of the Arkansas community, we share your desire for the preservation and protection of the Buffalo River. Our decision to continue supporting the farm, and the families that operate it, was carefully considered and all perspectives were weighed.

Having made our decision, we want you to know that we are committing to the following actions:

- To line both the holding pond and settling basin with synthetic liners;
- Exploring leak detection technology for the liners, as well as water treatment options and systems;
- Cover the settling basin;
- Install a flare system to burn off gases;
- Continue to investigate new, leading-edge technologies with plans to begin installing and testing new technology for nutrient management before the end of the calendar year;
- Cargill has established a permanent moratorium on the construction of any new hog facilities in the Buffalo River watershed, or expansion of the existing C&H hog farm.
- Cargill also supports similar actions being taken by the State of Arkansas;
- Ongoing open and transparent communication:
 - Quarterly update calls with Cargill Pork leaders;
 - Select visits to the farm by one person from the Buffalo River Watershed Alliance, The Ozark Society, The Canoe Club and The National Parks Conservation Association to see progress and completion of points 1-4 above;
 - Visit to the farm by the same groups above to get a technology overview and demonstration. This timing will be dependent upon implementation and results, which will be communicated in the quarterly update calls.

I realize a solution which satisfies all is probably unrealistic. I do wish to keep the door open for future dialogue and hope you consider doing the same.

Sincerely,

Mike Luker
President
Cargill Pork