

RICHARD MAYS LAW FIRM, PLLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

115 South Third Street - Suite A-2

Heber Springs, AR 72543

Phone: 501-362-0055

Fax: 501-362-0059

Richard H. Mays

rhmay@richardmayslawfirm.com

Melanie Beltran

mbeltran@richardmayslawfirm.com

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL AND REGULAR MAIL

June 29, 2016

Ms. Becky Keogh, Director
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118-5317

Re: Independent Investigation of Possible Release at C&H Hog Farm

Dear Ms. Keogh:

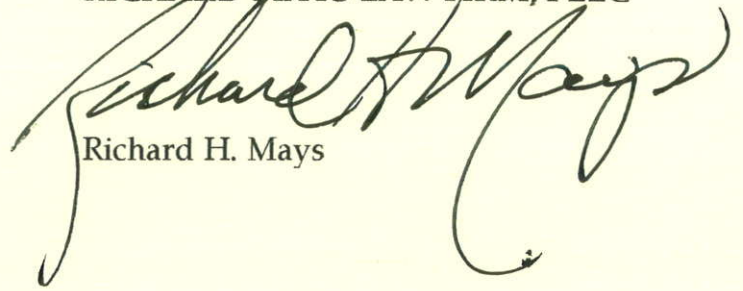
As I stated on behalf of the Buffalo River Coalition at last Friday's Commission meeting, we congratulate the Department on its decision to conduct an independent investigation of a possible release from the C&H Hog Farm in Newton County, and your assurance that the investigation will be transparent in allowing the participation of the Coalition and other representatives of the public in the planning and execution of the investigation.

Now that the decision to conduct an investigation has been made, we urge that it be done with all deliberate speed so as to detect and abate any release that may be occurring. We are interested in knowing when and how a contractor will be selected, and working with it in the development of procedures, protocols and schedule for conducting the investigation. If there are any plans in existence at this time for a preliminary meeting of stakeholders to begin the planning, we would appreciate your share that information at this time.

Thank you for your interest in and attention to this important matter. We look forward to working in coordination with ADEQ, BCRET, the independent contractor and other interested parties in getting it resolved.

Sincerely,

RICHARD MAYS LAW FIRM, PLLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard H. Mays". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Richard H. Mays

cc: Philip Kaplan, Esq.
Mr. Gordon Watkins
Ms. Dane Schumacher