

Rachel Henriques

Since it began operation in 2013, the C&H CAFO has sprayed over 10 million gallons of swine waste into the tiny valley of Big Creek.

The factory is built on karst topography, which by its nature, is highly fractured. What goes into the ground leaks into the aquifer and pollutes wells that families depend upon for clean water. The amount of untreated hog manure from 6,500 swine is equivalent to a city of 30,000 people flushing their toilets onto the ground.

What is sprayed in the valley also goes into the air. Research shows that high levels of air-borne toxins such as hydrogen sulfide and ammonia can trigger eye irritation, difficulty breathing, and feelings of stress and anxiety. These air pollutants impact the quality of life and health of nearby residents. The Mt. Judea school system is located adjacent to the CAFO's spraying field. Children of all ages are expected to be outside to get to and from classes, have outdoor recess and play sports under these unhealthy circumstances.

Mt. Judea is a small town which is struggling economically. I cannot help but think that the location of this CAFO was chosen partly because owners and investors knew that the town could not afford to defend itself with legal representation.

Swine concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) simply do not have a place in the sensitive karst terrain of the Buffalo National River watershed. Hundreds of families depend upon the health of the Buffalo River for their livelihoods. The Buffalo National River has furthered our state's tourism and create 1,200 jobs.

Closure of C&H is the only clear solution to preserve and protect the Buffalo National River and the health of the local community. Please deny the C&H Hog Farm's permit application for a Regulation 5 permit.

Thank you.

Rachel Henriques

Mt. Judea, AR

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Woman Zen master Sono: "Thank you for everything. I have no complaints whatsoever."