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April 30, 2019

Ms. Kristi Williams
Senior Ecologist
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Water Quality, Planning Branch
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118

Subject: Arkansas Environmental Federation (AEF) comments relating to ADEQ's Regulation No. 2 Triennial Review Workgroup Meetings

Dear Ms. Williams,

On behalf of the AEF, we appreciate being asked to participate in the referenced process and also value ADEQ staff efforts on the Regulation No. 2 proposed changes. AEF respectfully offers the following comments on the process for ADEQ consideration:

1. Reg. 2.309 Temporary Variance: AEF reviewed the ADEQ proposed changes and recommends the Department consider either adopting verbatim the 40 CFR 131.14 language, or specifically referencing 40 CFR 131.14 in this section of Regulation No. 2 to describe provisions relating to Applicability, Requirements, Implementation in NPDES permits.
2. Reg. 2.511(B): It is AEF's understanding, confirmed by verbal comments from Caleb Osborne at the March 28, 2019 Triennial Review Workgroup Meeting, that ADEQ does not view the Ecoregion Reference Stream Values as suitable for evaluating attainment of Arkansas's water quality standards. AEF agrees that the Ecoregion Reference Stream Values are not criteria and opposes removal of the following language contained in the current version Regulation No. 2 in this section: "The values listed this table below are not intended nor will these values be used by the Department to evaluate attainment of the water quality standards."

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Ava Roberts
Executive Director
Arkansas Environmental Federation