

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission (APC&EC) will hold a public hearing at North Little Rock October 7, 2013, to receive public comments on proposed revisions to Commission Regulation 15 (Arkansas Open Cut Mining and Reclamation Code). The hearing will begin at 2:00 p.m. in the Commission Room at the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) headquarters building, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock.

The deadline for submitting written comments on the proposed Regulation 15 changes is 4:30 p.m. Central Time October 21, 2013.

In the event of inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances, a decision may be made to postpone the hearing. If the hearing is postponed and rescheduled, a new legal notice will be published to announce the details of the new hearing date and comment period.

The APC&EC's authority for amending Regulation No. 15 is found in Arkansas Code Annotated (A.C.A.), Section 15-57-301, et seq.

The most significant proposed change involves deleting a section of the regulation regarding variances and interim authority and replacing it with language that any variances from provisions in the regulation and interim authority for operations will conform to the provisions of the A.C.A., Section 8-4-230.

Other proposed changes involve revisions of some definitions; the addition of a new definition for the term, "soil;" and minor style and format changes throughout the regulation.

Copies of the proposed changes are available for public inspection during regular business hours at the ADEQ Headquarters Building in the Public Outreach and Assistance Division, or at ADEQ information depositories located in public libraries at Arkadelphia, Batesville, Blytheville, Camden, Clinton, Crossett, El Dorado, Fayetteville, Forrest City, Fort Smith, Harrison, Helena, Hope, Hot Springs, Jonesboro, Little Rock (main branch), Magnolia, Mena, Monticello, Mountain Home, Pocahontas, Russellville, Searcy, Stuttgart, Texarkana, and West Memphis; in campus libraries at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and the University of Central Arkansas at Conway; or in the Arkansas State Library, 900 W. Capitol, Suite 100, Little Rock. In addition, a copy of the regulation showing the proposed changes, along with related support documents, is available for viewing or downloading at the draft Commission regulations page of the ADEQ's website located at http://www.adeq.state.ar.us/regs/drafts/draft_regs.htm.

Oral and written comments will be accepted at the hearing, but written comments are preferred in the interest of accuracy. In addition, written and electronic mail comments will be considered if received no later than 4:30 p.m. Central Time October 21, 2013. Written comments should be sent to Doug Szenher, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, Public Outreach and Assistance Division, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118. E-mail comments should be sent to: reg-comment@adeq.state.ar.us.

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