

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING, COMMENT PERIOD

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) will hold a public hearing March 1, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. (Central Time). to receive comments on the proposed 2016 Impaired Waterbodies List (commonly called the 303(d) List). The hearing will be held in the Commission Room at the ADEQ Headquarters Building; 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock. ADEQ will accept written comments on the proposal until March 11, 2016 at 4:30 p.m. (Central Time).

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.

ADEQ develops the 303(d) List every two years under provisions of Section 303(d) of the Federal Clean Water Act. ADEQ assesses water quality monitoring data from numerous locations around the state based upon a comprehensive assessment methodology to determine which waters are not meeting their water quality standards and/or designated uses as listed in the Arkansas Water Quality Standards (Regulation 2 of the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission).

Water quality data from stream and lake sampling sites were considered during the development of the proposed 2016 303(d) List. The evaluated water quality data were collected by multiple entities including ADEQ; other state, federal, and local government agencies; and private entities in Arkansas and from surrounding states.

Copies of the list and maps of listed waters by county are available on the ADEQ's website at: [http://www2.adeq.state.ar.us/water/branch\\_planning/303d/303d.htm](http://www2.adeq.state.ar.us/water/branch_planning/303d/303d.htm) or can be obtained by contacting Jim Wise in the ADEQ Water Division; telephone, 501-682-0663; E-mail, [wise@adeq.state.ar.us](mailto:wise@adeq.state.ar.us). A complete listing of impaired waterbodies and the reasons for impairment can be found in the tables following the narrative of the draft 303(d) List.

Copies of the proposed 2016 Arkansas 303(d) List also are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the ADEQ's Public Outreach and Assistance Division, located on the second floor of the ADEQ headquarters building, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock. In addition, copies of the list are available for public review during normal business hours 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; and in the Arkansas State Library, 900 W. Capitol, Suite 100, Little Rock.

At the hearing, Water Division staff will present a short program discussing the proposed 2016 303(d) List prior to accepting formal public comments. A period of time will also be set aside for informal discussion and questions and answers before the formal public comment period begins.

Oral and written comments on the proposed 2016 303(d) List will be accepted at the public hearing, but written statements are preferred in the interest of accuracy. In

addition, written comments will be considered if received no later than March 11, 2016, at 4:30 p.m. (Central Time). Written statements should be sent to: Jim Wise, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, Water Division, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118. Electronic mail comments should be sent to: [ImpairedWaterbodies\\_Comments@adeq.state.ar.us](mailto:ImpairedWaterbodies_Comments@adeq.state.ar.us).

Proposed revisions to the 2016 Arkansas 303(d) List may be incorporated into the 2016 Arkansas Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report (commonly called the 305(b) Report), after approval by the ADEQ Director and the Region 6 Office of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Dated this 16th day of January, 2016,

Becky W. Keogh, Director,  
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality