

Baxter County Quarry - 488 COUNTY ROAD 69

FTQ9-T1P5-0BQ

Inspector: Jason Bolenbaugh

Start Date: 02/11/2026 Completed Date: 02/24/2026

WTR - Complaint Form

Complaint Report

1. Complainant Information

Jim Baker / 488 County Road 69 / Mountain Home, AR 72653 / (870) 421-9351/ paraskijim@hotmail.com

Betty Evans / 116 Widners Place / Mountain Home, AR 72653 / (870) 421-5559 /
bettyannevans1953@gmail.com

2. Response Requested

Yes No

3. Complaint Against

Baxter County

4. Site Address

COUNTY ROAD 69, MOUNTAIN HOME, AR 72653

5. Date Complaint Received

7/15/2025

5a. Complaint Report Number

EVAL-WCMPT-00000296

6. Complaint Description

Complaint Filed By Mr. Jim Baker (Complaint-02854): Baxter County Quarry is adding two buildings across from my property and they are disposing road materials, waste water and dumping dirt into this pit that is connected to my pond. The pond is filled with dirt and whatever chemicals is in the water. He is allowing outside contractors to dump wastewater and dirt as well. The County is allowing this and I am not sure if they are permitted. This needs to be looked at.

Complaint Filed By Ms. Betty Evans (Complaint-04760): This open mine has been closed for at least 15 years. I understand that it is to be reclaimed to its natural state by law. It has been misused, and the county has allowed illegal dumping and burning there. It has standing water that is entering our water systems and causing bacteria levels too high to drink the water without chlorination. It is now housing the electric company trucks and equipment. It has old electric poles piled there that contain chemicals that can also seep into the water. I live within 1/4 mile of this mine and feel it has caused damage to our water well and the State required us to install a chlorinator. Our well serves 12 families. The cost of this was \$3700.00. The county did not pay for it. As homeowners we paid the cost.

7. Previous Complaint submitted against Site?

Yes No

8. Location in Detail

County Road 69, Mountain Home, AR 72653. The location of the quarry is south of 488 County Road 69. The entrance of the quarry is located at 36.28529 and -92.31905. The location of the quarry pit in question is at 36.286028 and -92.32255. The location of the tree debris burn pile is at 36.28503 and -92.32191.

Follow-up on Complaint

1. Number of Site Visits

1

Baxter County Quarry - 488 COUNTY ROAD 69

FTQ9-T1P5-0BQ

Inspector: Jason Bolenbaugh

Start Date: 02/11/2026 Completed Date: 02/24/2026

Follow-up on Complaint

2. Dates of Site Visits

Dates

2/11/2026

3. Discharge to Water of the State

Yes No

4. Samples Collected

Yes No

5. Name of Waterbody

Unnamed Tributary to Vickory Creek

Comments:

No discharge from the quarry was occurring at the time of the evaluation. Any surface water discharge from the quarry may drain to the south into unnamed tributaries leading to Vickory Creek.

Baxter County Quarry - 488 COUNTY ROAD 69

FTQ9-T1P5-0BQ

Inspector: Jason Bolenbaugh

Start Date: 02/11/2026 Completed Date: 02/24/2026

Investigation & Action Taken

1. Investigation & Action Taken

I conducted an unannounced complaint evaluation of the site on February 11, 2026. Baxter County Judge Kevin Litty, Baxter County Road Department Superintendent Larry Carter, and E&E Inspector Jon Vickery were in attendance. The evaluation was conducted to address water quality concerns from alleged dumping of wastewater and dirt into a quarry pit (36.286028 and -92.32255) filled with water. The complaint alleged the pit is filled with dirt and whatever chemicals due to the disposal of drilling mud into the pit. At the time of the evaluation there wasn't any evidence that drilling mud had been released into the pit. Mr. Carter explained the pit is approximately forty feet deep. The pit contained water which was clear and Mr. Carter explained residents will fish in the pit for catfish. There was a single blue hose in the pit that is used so the County Road Department can withdraw water into water trucks. According to Judge Litty, Black Hills Energy was allowed to dump drilling mud from small containment trailers on the site, but not into the pit. The drilling mud was dumped onto the ground approximately 260 feet southeast of the pit. The drilling mud was not evident because a large pile of tree debris now sits atop the area. The dumping of drilling mud at the site was stopped in August or September 2025. If the County wishes to resume the dumping of drilling mud onto the site, the County must first contact the Division of Environmental Quality, Office of Land Resources to inquire about using the drilling mud as beneficial fill material.

The County allows North Arkansas Electric to bring in tree debris and pile it in preparation to be burned. However, tree debris from the County and North Arkansas Electric has been placed around the edge of the of the fill area because the County does not want the pile to get any larger prior to burning. Tree debris is not considered a beneficial fill material so please ensure it is not buried. It was recommended to Judge Litty that he begin a second tree debris pile staging area.

To the south of the tree debris pile was solid waste that had been partially buried. Mr. Carter explained that people will dump materials at the quarry. I explained to Judge Litty and Mr. Carter that any solid waste that is dumped at the site must be disposed of at the landfill and not buried in the quarry. Judge Litty explained the materials would be removed.

North Arkansas Electric is utilizing a space in the quarry immediately inside the gate. However, no spills of chemicals was noticed while entering the area and the quarry. The only standing water located on site was the quarry pit. There wasn't any evidence suggesting wastewater was dumped into the pit that would cause elevated bacteria levels in drinking water. There wasn't any cloudy or dirty water leaving the mine site.

Baxter County Quarry - 488 COUNTY ROAD 69

FTQ9-T1P5-0BQ

Inspector: Jason Bolenbaugh

Start Date: 02/11/2026 Completed Date: 02/24/2026

Investigation & Action Taken



Photo Taken: 02/11/2026 10:13:00 AM
GPS Latitude: 36.289555
GPS Longitude: -92.323403
GPS Altitude: 284.743408 meters

Photo Comment: View of the quarry pit standing at the southeast corner of the pit.



Photo Taken: 02/11/2026 10:14:00 AM
GPS Latitude: 36.289555
GPS Longitude: -92.323403
GPS Altitude: 284.743408 meters

Photo Comment: View of the quarry pit standing on the south end of the pit.

2. Items of Non-Compliance Identified

Yes No

Comments:

No water quality violations were noted during the evaluation. However, the solid waste identified just south of the tree debris pile must be removed and disposed of properly.

Baxter County Quarry - 488 COUNTY ROAD 69

FTQ9-T1P5-0BQ

Inspector: Jason Bolenbaugh

Start Date: 02/11/2026 Completed Date: 02/24/2026

Exit

1. General Comments

Remove solid waste that is photographed in #2 below and dispose of it properly at the landfill. Ensure no vegetative debris is buried on site. Contact the DEQ-Office of Land Resources prior to dumping any drilling mud onto the site if you wish to resume those activities. Monitor stormwater runoff from the site and install any necessary stormwater Best Management Practices if turbid stormwater is leaving the site or entering waters of the state. Monitor the area used by North Arkansas Electric to ensure any chemical or petroleum spills are remediated.



Photo Taken: 02/11/2026 10:49:00 AM
GPS Latitude: 36.284490
GPS Longitude: -92.321643
GPS Altitude: 264.566742 meters

Photo Comment: View of area where fill material is being brought into the quarry.



Photo Taken: 02/11/2026 10:49:00 AM
GPS Latitude: 36.284431
GPS Longitude: -92.321294
GPS Altitude: 295.928644 meters

Photo Comment: View of tree debris pile that is being brought to the site by North Arkansas Electric.

Baxter County Quarry - 488 COUNTY ROAD 69

FTQ9-T1P5-0BQ

Inspector: Jason Bolenbaugh

Start Date: 02/11/2026 Completed Date: 02/24/2026

Exit

2. Evaluation End Date

2/11/2026



Photo Taken: 02/11/2026 10:52:00 AM
GPS Latitude: 36.284490
GPS Longitude: -92.321643
GPS Altitude: 264.566742 meters

Photo Comment: Other tree debris to the southeast of the proposed burn pile. Some had existed there that the County placed, and some was placed there by North Arkansas Electric so the existing pile did not increase in size.



Photo Taken: 02/11/2026 10:55:00 AM
GPS Latitude: 36.284490
GPS Longitude: -92.321643
GPS Altitude: 264.566742 meters

Photo Comment: View of solid waste that was partially buried. It was recommended the waste be removed and disposed of at the landfill.

3. Evaluation End Time

11:17 AM

Baxter County Quarry - 488 COUNTY ROAD 69

FTQ9-T1P5-0BQ

Inspector: Jason Bolenbaugh

Start Date: 02/11/2026 Completed Date: 02/24/2026

Exit



Photo Taken: 02/11/2026 11:03:00 AM
GPS Latitude: 36.284490
GPS Longitude: -92.321643
GPS Altitude: 264.566742 meters

Photo Comment: North side of the quarry pit where water would overflow with rising water levels.



Photo Taken: 02/11/2026 11:03:00 AM
GPS Latitude: 36.284490
GPS Longitude: -92.321643
GPS Altitude: 264.566742 meters

Photo Comment: North side of the pit.

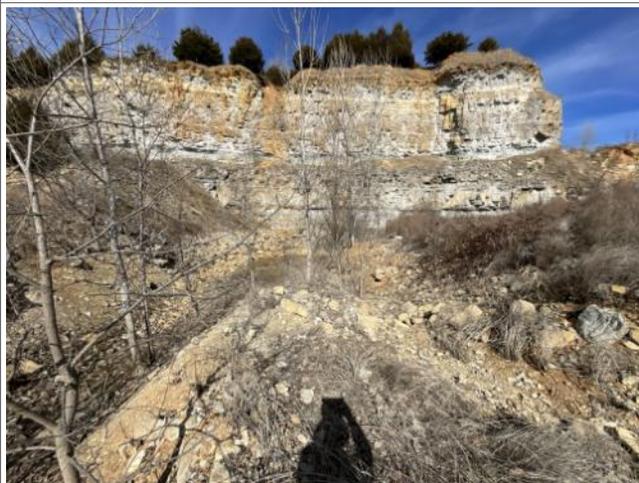


Photo Taken: 02/11/2026 11:04:00 AM
GPS Latitude: 36.284490
GPS Longitude: -92.321643
GPS Altitude: 264.566742 meters

Photo Comment: View from the northeast side of the pit looking north. Approximately fifty feet of elevation difference.