| 1  | State of Arkansas                     | As Engrossed: \$3/21/17                              |                   |
|----|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| 2  | 91st General Assembly                 | A Bill   |                   |
| 3  | Regular Session, 2017                 |  | SENATE BILL 364   |
| 4  |                                       |  |                   |
| 5  | By: Senator D. Sanders                |  |                   |
| 6  |                                       |  |                   |
| 7  |                                       | For An Act To Be Entitled                            |                   |
| 8  |                                       | TO SIMPLIFY AND MODERNIZE THE NOTICE                 |                   |
| 9  | REQUIRE                               | MENTS FOR PERMITS ISSUED BY THE ARKANSAS             |                   |
| 10 | DEPARTM                               | ENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY; TO ALLOW               |                   |
| 11 | ELECTRO                               | NIC NOTICE FOR MATTERS RELATED TO PENDING            | AND               |
| 12 | FINAL P                               | ERMITTING DECISIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOS            | ES.               |
| 13 |                                       |  |                   |
| 14 |                                       |  |                   |
| 15 |                                       | Subtitle   |                   |
| 16 |                                       | SIMPLIFY AND MODERNIZE THE NOTICE                    |                   |
| 17 | RE                                    | QUIREMENTS FOR PERMITS ISSUED BY THE                 |                   |
| 18 | AF                                    | KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL                   |                   |
| 19 | QU                                    | ALITY.   |                   |
| 20 |                                       |  |                   |
| 21 |                                       |  |                   |
| 22 | BE IT ENACTED BY TH                   | E GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANS            | AS:               |
| 23 |                                       |  |                   |
| 24 | SECTION 1. A                          | rkansas Code § 8-4-203(d)(3), concerning             | permits issued by |
| 25 | the Arkansas Depart                   | ment of Environmental Quality, is amended            | to read as        |
| 26 | follows:                              |  |                   |
| 27 | (3) <u>(A)</u>                        | If the department determines that a hear             | ing is necessary  |
| 28 | or desires such a h                   | earing, the department shall schedule a p            | ublic hearing     |
| 29 | and.                                  |  |                   |
| 30 | 1                                     | <u>B)(i) If the department schedules a publ</u>      | ic hearing, the   |
| 31 | <u>department</u> shall no            | tify <del>by first class mail</del> the applicant an | d all persons     |
| 32 | <del>that</del> <u>who</u> have submi | tted comments of the date, time, and plac            | e of the public   |
| 33 | hearing.                              |  |                   |
| 34 | 1                                     | ii) The notice shall be provided using o             | ne (1) of the     |
| 35 | following methods b                   | ased on the contact information available            | for the           |
| 36 | <u>applicant or the pe</u>            | rson and the Director of the Arkansas Dep            | <u>artment of</u> |



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| 1        | Environmental Quality discretion:   |  |  |
|----------|---|--|--|
| 2        | (a) First class mail; or  |  |  |
| 3        | (b) Electronic mail.  |  |  |
| 4        |   |  |  |
| 5        | SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 8-4-203(e)(1)(C), concerning permits issued                        |  |  |
| 6        | by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, is amended to read as                    |  |  |
| 7        | follows:  |  |  |
| 8        | (C) <u>(i)</u> At the conclusion of the public comment period, the                            |  |  |
| 9        | department shall <del>announce in writing its</del> provide a final <u>written permitting</u> |  |  |
| 10       | decision regarding the permit application.  |  |  |
| 11       | (ii) The final written permitting decision shall be   |  |  |
| 12       | published on the department's website.  |  |  |
| 13       | (iii) The department shall provide the applicant the final                                    |  |  |
| 14       | permitting decision using one (1) of the following methods based on the                       |  |  |
| 15       | contact information available and the director's discretion:                                  |  |  |
| 16       | <u>(a) First class mail; or</u>   |  |  |
| 17       | (b) Electronic mail.  |  |  |
| 18       | (iv) The department shall provide notice of the final   |  |  |
| 19       | permitting decision to all persons who have submitted comments using one (1)                  |  |  |
| 20       | of the following methods based on the contact information available and the                   |  |  |
| 21       | <u>director's discretion:</u>   |  |  |
| 22       | <u>(a) First class mail; or</u>   |  |  |
| 23       | (b) Electronic mail.  |  |  |
| 24       |   |  |  |
| 25       | /s/D. Sanders   |  |  |
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