



Energy & Environment Innovation Plan





TOPICS

01 | **PLAN OVERVIEW**

02 | **REGIONAL EFFORTS**

03 | **WORKSHOP**

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT INNOVATION (EEI) PLANNING

Enabling access to and enhancing Arkansas's competitiveness for federal funding for energy and environment infrastructure and practices that reduce emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) and other pollutants.

✓ PRIORITY ACTION PLAN (DUE 3/1/2024)

Application ready incentive program and project concepts to compete for \$4.6 billion in competitive implementation grants

✓ COMPREHENSIVE ACTION PLAN (DUE 7/5/2025)

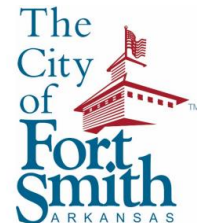
Comprehensive roadmap of state priorities for low and zero-emissions energy and environmental infrastructure investments

✓ STATUS UPDATE (DUE 7/5/2027)

Update on implementation and future needs



METROPLAN
SMART PLANNING MAKES SMART PLACES.



PLANNING GRANTS

- ✔ EPA awarded \$250 million in formula grants to states, tribes, and local governments under its Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) Program.
- ✔ Grant recipients will use funds to develop plans for reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) and other pollutant emissions within their covered jurisdiction.

IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS

- ✔ EPA will award \$4.6 billion in competitive grants for measures developed under the CPRG planning grant.
- ✔ EPA anticipates awarding individual grants between \$2 million and \$500 million, with funding tiers allowing comparably sized projects to compete against one another.
- ✔ Implementation grant guidance released September 20, 2023 with applications due April 1, 2024. Submission of CPRG priority plan is prerequisite to application for implementation grants.

IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS CONT'D

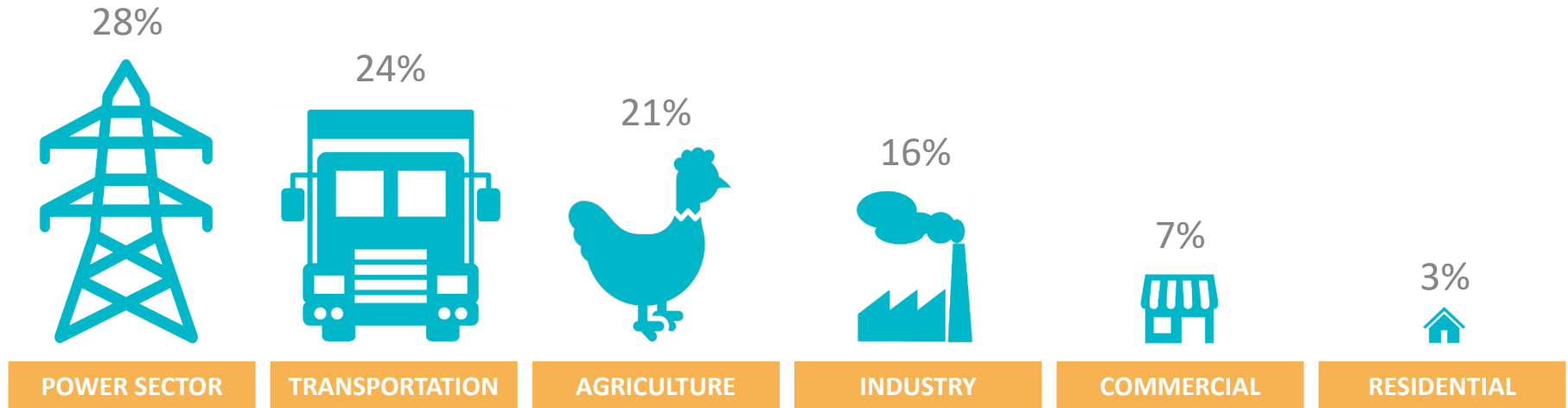
- ✓ Anticipated period of performance: October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2029
- ✓ No cost-share required

ELIGIBLE ENTITIES (MUST BE COVERED BY PAP)

- ✓ State Agencies
- ✓ Local Government Agencies (cities, counties, metropolitan planning organizations, councils of government, regional organizations comprised of multiple municipalities)
- ✓ Tribal Governments
- ✓ Coalitions of eligible entities cooperating at a regional scale

ARKANSAS GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

- ✔ The power sector is currently the largest contributor to GHG Emissions in Arkansas
- ✔ Carbon dioxide makes up 70% of Arkansas GHG emissions followed by methane (19%) , nitrous oxides (10%), and fluorinated gases (3%)



OPPORTUNITIES FOR INNOVATION



**LOW- AND
ZERO-EMISSION
ENERGY**

**BENEFICIAL
ELECTRIFICATION**



**EFFICIENCY
AND WASTE
MINIMIZATION**

SEQUESTRATION



EEI PLAN COMPONENTS



Arkansas Investment Priorities



Facilitating Statewide Economic Growth and Competitiveness

Growing and expanding the economy within Arkansas by increasing access to economic opportunities for communities, advancing **transportation** and **commerce**, and maintaining a **resilient supply chain**.



Keeping Communities Safe

Improving public and **transportation safety** provisions through promoting road and highway **safety education** and training programs, strengthening **cybersecurity** infrastructure, and making safety improvements to roads and bridges.



Preparing the Infrastructure Workforce

Scaling up the workforce needed for project delivery, promoting access to **quality jobs**, and developing a **pipeline of talent** across the state.



Preservation and Promotion of The Natural State

Celebrating the State's natural resources to develop, create, and sustain outdoor recreation, business, and employment opportunities through ecology initiatives, environmental resiliency projects, and proper water management practices.



Creating a Portfolio of Reliable, Efficient, and Secure Energy Options

Expanding affordable and **efficient energy** options available to Arkansans through resource development while maintaining a strong **energy workforce** and **secure** electric power grid that can withstand emergencies and severe weather.

Arkansas Core Investment Principles

1

MAXIMIZING REACH – Prioritizing opportunities that generate significant impact for many Arkansans

2

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY – Evaluating programs based on match requirements, financial sustainability, and the frequency of recurring costs

3

IMPROVING CORE SERVICES – Improving quality of life by enhancing access to essential infrastructure (e.g., Water, Education, Public Safety, Electricity, Public Transportation)

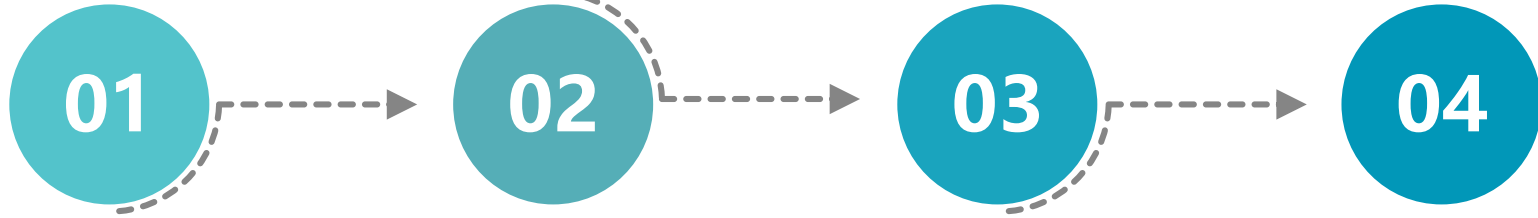
4

EXPANDING ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY – Investing to strengthen transportation and digital networks, linking communities throughout the state

5

DRIVING RURAL IMPACT – Expanding the availability and quality of infrastructure in rural communities to support economic development and jobs

THE NEXT 6 MONTHS



OUTREACH

Stakeholder and
Community
Meetings, Survey,
Idea Box

PLAN DESIGN

Design of model
incentive program
designs and project
concepts, benefits
analysis

FINALIZE PRIORITY PLAN

Receive feedback,
finalize plan,
submit to EPA

APPLY FOR GRANTS

State and local
agencies apply for
implementation
grants



Transportation Sector Workshop

DETAILS

Date and Time:	September 21, 2023 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Location:	Wyndham Riverfront Hotel 2 Riverfront Place North Little Rock, AR
Virtual Option:	www.tinyurl.com/EEI-Transportation-Webinar

AGENDA

Lunch	Boxed lunch with prior registration.	12:00 – 12:30 pm
Welcome	David Witherow , Associate Director, Office of Air Quality, Arkansas Dept. of Energy and Environment	12:30 – 12:40 pm
Energy and Environment Innovation Plan Overview and Meeting Logistics	Tricia Treece , Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment Joshua Robertson , City of Fort Smith Elizabeth Bowen , Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission Bernadette Rhodes , Metroplan	12:40 – 1:15 pm
Low and Zero-Emissions Vehicles and Infrastructure	Jason Willey , Manager of Strategic Energy Initiatives, Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment; Arkansas Clean Cities Lead	1:15 – 2:00 pm
Break		2:00 – 2:15 pm
Sustainable Transportation Infrastructure	Thom Cerny , Climate Resilience/TDM Practice Lead, Toole Design	2:15 – 3:00 pm
Sustainable Transportation Mobility	Andy Brewer , Technical Leader for Transportation, Olsson	3:00 – 3:45 pm
Breakout Sessions	Discuss topics with speakers and share project ideas.	3:45 – 4:30 pm
Report Out/Closing	Facilitators will summarize ideas shared for each topic.	4:30 – 5:00 pm

KEEP IN TOUCH



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WEBSITE

<https://ee.arkansas.gov/environment/office-of-air-quality/eei/>



@AREnergyEnvironment

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!



SURVEY

Help us understand
your community's
priorities.

Scan the QR code to
complete the survey.



IDEA BOX

Do you have a
specific project
or program
design concept?

Scan the QR code to
submit your idea.