

US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has finished their overall programmatic midyear review of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality's (ADEQ) Air Quality Program. EPA has sent a letter acknowledging and asserting their appreciation of the State and Department's efforts on continuing to work to improve air quality in the State of Arkansas and adjacent states. In particular, EPA has acknowledged ADEQ's Air Quality Program's work on the following:

- Maintaining the State's National Ambient Air Quality Standards
- Participation on revisions of the Regional Haze Rule
- Timely responses to follow-up questions regarding the "Threshold Revision" SIP for minor New Source Review permitting
- Adoption and implementation of regulatory revisions to address current National Ambient Air Quality Standards
- Participation in the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act program
- Implementation of delegated Clean Air Act § 112 rules for hazardous air pollutants
- Operation of the ambient air monitoring network and timely submission of air quality data to AirNOW
- Proactive efforts regarding particulate matter air issues in the Little Rock area
- Ongoing operation of a particular matter chemical speciation network monitor in North Little Rock
- Work and cooperation for the Technical Systems Audits
- Current permitting actions and responsiveness on questions/comments on those permits
- Updates of the Best Available Control Technology/Lowest Achievable Emissions Rate determinations
- Collection, quality assurance, and submittal of emissions data from Point Source facilities

Overall, EPA commended the leadership and staff of ADEQ's Air Quality Program for their hard work and commitment to protecting the air for the people of Arkansas.