

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Sarah Huckabee Sanders GOVERNOR Shane E. Khoury SECRETARY

December 19, 2024

Earthea Nance, Ph.D., PE Regional Administrator United States EPA Region VI 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200 Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Dear Regional Administrator Nance:

The State of Arkansas respectfully submits for your review a revision to the Arkansas State Implementation Plan (SIP). In this SIP submission, Arkansas is addressing the codification of all state agency and commission rules into the Code of Arkansas Rules (CAR). Per Act 662 of 2019, all agency-level rules will be replaced by codified versions found in the CAR, effective December 31, 2024. As the currently approved SIP is based on agency-level Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission Rules 9, 19, 26, and 31, this revision is necessary to update provision citations found at 40 CFR Part 52, Subpart E.

Because this SIP revision is nonsubstantive in nature and only serves to create a roadmap between previously approved provisions and their location in the CAR, I am requesting parallel processing of this submittal in accordance with the October 31, 2011, Memo, "Options and Efficiency Tools for EPA Action on State Implementation Plans." Parallel processing will allow Arkansas to avoid any gaps in regulatory coverage possibly resulting from the CAR December 31, 2024, effective date, as procedural requirements related to public notice and comment are completed.

Arkansas scheduled a public hearing regarding this SIP revision on January 13, 2025. Included in the submission packet is a copy of the notice of public hearing and opportunity to comment on the proposed SIP revision as required by 40 C.F.R. § 51.102. On December 21 and December 22, 2024, notice of the proposal and public hearing was published in the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, which is a newspaper in general circulation statewide. Information on the public notice, the proposed revision, and supporting documents are posted to Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment's (DEQ) SIP webpage (https://www.adeq.state.ar.us/air/planning/sip/). Upon conclusion of the 30-day public comment period on January 20, 2025, Arkansas will evaluate and respond to comments received and finalize the Codification SIP revision as expeditiously as possible.

This SIP package is being submitted electronically through the State Planning Electronic Collaboration System (SPeCS) for SIPs web-based system in accordance with 40 CFR 51.103(a). I certify that all documents submitted to EPA in electronic form are exact duplicates of the hard copy documents.

Should questions arise, please do not hesitate to contact the DEQ's Associate Director of the Office of Air Quality Demetria Kimbrough at (501) 682-0927, or by email at Demetria.Kimbrough@arkansas.gov. Thank you for your consideration of Arkansas' submission.

Sincerely,

- 23

Shane Khoury Secretary, Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT ee.arkansas.gov | 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118 | 501.682.0744