



## ARKANSAS ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

Sarah Huckabee Sanders  
GOVERNOR

Shane E. Khoury  
SECRETARY

July 28, 2025

Scott Mason, Regional Administrator, Region 6  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500  
Dallas, TX 75270

Dear Administrator Mason:

On August 8, 2022, Arkansas submitted the state's Regional Haze State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the second planning period. After further consideration and engagement with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 staff and affected facilities, Arkansas requests to withdraw portions of the SIP package related to Administrative Order (AO) #22-084, for Entergy Arkansas, LLC ("Entergy") Independence Steam Electric Station ("Independence"). EPA indicated at the time of the initial SIP submission that Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment, Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ), should execute and include an AO in the SIP.

In the initial SIP submittal, Arkansas included AO #22-084 executed between DEQ and Entergy regarding the cessation of coal combustion at Independence by December 31, 2030, to address certain second planning period requirements. Arkansas now requests to withdraw AO #22-084 from the SIP package that is pending EPA review and proposed action. DEQ requests that EPA take action on the remainder of Arkansas' SIP submittal for the Regional Haze Rule's second implementation period as meeting requirements of the Regional Haze Rule. Further, the AO requirement to cease coal use at Independence by December 31, 2030, was set by a separate 2021 District Court order (Case No. 4:18cv854).

Without AO #22-084, Arkansas maintains that the SIP submittal demonstrates reasonable progress under the Regional Haze Rule and the Clean Air Act and addresses all required elements of 40 CFR 51.308(f).

If you have any questions, please contact the Deputy Director for the Office of Air Quality, Demetria Kimbrough, at 501-682-0927.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shane Khoury".

Shane Khoury  
Secretary, Arkansas Energy and Environment