

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** May 21, 2020

## DEQ Issues Brownfield Certificate of Completion to Glatfelter Advanced Materials

**NORTH LITTLE ROCK**—The Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment (E&E), Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has issued a Brownfield Certificate of Completion to Glatfelter Advanced Materials N.A., Inc. (Glatfelter) for meeting the requirements of the Arkansas Brownfield Program. Glatfelter's state-of-the-art airlaid facility, which began operations in June of 2018, will become the 48th location to receive the certification.

**Becky W. Keogh, E&E Secretary and DEQ Director:** "I want to acknowledge the significant work from all involved including the DEQ team. Especially at this time of rebuilding our local, state, and national economies, I am pleased to recognize this accomplishment. I am pleased to declare this site 'ready for reuse' and to provide the necessary certainty for new owners and the local community."

The Property was originally developed as a portion of Fort Chaffee in 1941, and then designated as a permanent military facility in 1956. In 1995, the Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommended closure of Fort Chaffee, with the majority of the land going to the Arkansas National Guard and the rest turned over to the Fort Chaffee Redevelopment Authority. This development is known as Chaffee Crossing and includes the 90-acre property which was acquired by Glatfelter in 2017. The 230,588 square foot facility was constructed by Mitsubishi in 2011-2012, but was never utilized.

With assistance from DEQ, Glatfelter enrolled in the Arkansas Brownfield Program in 2016. The historical use of the property as an active Army base and an airstrip could create potential impacts from the chemicals used for maintenance and fueling of aircraft. Deed restrictions are now in place to prohibit the extraction of groundwater and to prohibit property usage for residential purposes. The Arkansas Brownfield Program aids in the rehabilitation of property that may be underutilized or unattractive due to historical uses or risks associated with the perception of potential contamination.

For more information on the Arkansas Brownfield Program visit DEQ's website at: <u>https://www.adeq.state.ar.us/hazwaste/programs/brownfield/</u>.