

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

EO 21-05

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

**EXECUTIVE ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE ENERGY RESOURCES
PLANNING TASK FORCE**

WHEREAS: Recent winter storms revealed vulnerabilities in critical energy resources in Arkansas and the surrounding region; and

WHEREAS: Increased demand and inadequate available supply of critical energy resources such as natural gas, electricity, and liquefied petroleum gas caused Arkansas citizens to suffer service outages and forced Arkansas businesses to close; and

WHEREAS: Preparedness for the provision and allocation of critical energy resources during extreme events is necessary to preserve the health and safety of citizens and protect the critical infrastructure of this state; and

WHEREAS: It is in the best interest of the state and its citizens to evaluate the ability of Arkansas's critical energy resources and infrastructure to withstand extreme events;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, acting under the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Arkansas, do hereby order the following:

- (1) There is hereby created the Energy Resources Planning Task Force, which shall serve as an investigative and advisory body of the Governor.
- (2) The Task Force shall be composed of public and private sector leaders with requisite knowledge and expertise to represent the interests of the public, energy sectors, and industry.
- (3) The Task Force shall be composed of members appointed by the Governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The chair of the committee shall be designated by the Governor. The Commission shall be composed of:
 - a) The Secretary of the Department of Energy and Environment, or his or her designee;
 - b) The Director of the Arkansas Oil and Gas Commission, or his or her designee;
 - c) The Director of the Arkansas Liquefied Petroleum Gas Board, or his or her designee; and
 - d) The Secretary of the Department of Commerce, or his or her designee.
- (4) The members of the Task Force shall have the following duties:
 - a) Review the lessons learned from the February winter storms, including lessons from surrounding states and information gathered by hearing testimony from the following:
 - i. The Chair of the Arkansas Public Service Commission, or his or her designee;
 - ii. A representative of the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO);
 - iii. A representative of the Southwest Power Pool (SPP);
 - iv. A representative of Entergy Arkansas;

- v. A representative of the Arkansas Electric Cooperatives Corporation;
 - vi. A representative of Southwestern Electric Power Company;
 - vii. A representative of Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company;
 - viii. A representative of the Empire District Electric Company;
 - ix. A representative of the Arkansas Municipal Power Association (AMPA);
 - x. A representative of CenterPoint Energy;
 - xi. A representative of Arkansas Oklahoma Gas Corporation;
 - xii. A representative of Black Hills Energy;
 - xiii. A representative of the Arkansas Electric Energy Consumers (AEEC);
 - xiv. A representative of the Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce;
 - xv. The Executive Director of the Arkansas Environmental Federation, or his or her designee;
 - xvi. The President of the Arkansas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners (AIPRO) association, or his or her designee;
 - xvii. Additional citizens, as the Task Force deems necessary, with knowledge and expertise in energy and environmental matters; and
 - xviii. Additional citizens, as the Task Force deems necessary.
- b) Make recommendations for actions needed to ensure adequate supply of critical energy sources during extreme events; and
- c) Develop priorities for allocation of limited energy resources should supply shortages due to emergency situations necessitate action to preserve life, health, and safety.

(2) The Task Force shall have an initial meeting within seven (7) days of this order and shall meet as necessary to accomplish its objectives. The Task Force shall provide a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor by September 30, 2021. The Task Force may provide earlier reports and recommendations to the Governor as necessary.

(3) Upon request, the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment and the Arkansas Public Service Commission may provide staff and other personnel to support the work of the Task Force.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed the 3rd day of March, in the year of our Lord 2021.



Asa Hutchinson

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

John Thurston

John Thurston, Secretary of State