

ARKANSAS ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

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INTERN BRINGS RELEVANT EXPERIENCE TO AEO

In part, Indeed—the worldwide employment website for job listings—describes an internship as “a temporary role that’s often related to one’s academic field of study or career interests.” By that definition, Arkansas Energy Office (AEO) Anna Claire Ryan may just be the textbook (or is it website?) intern.

Ryan, who recently completed her bachelor’s degree in business administration from the University of the Ozarks, minored in environmental sciences (and also history). Before graduating in May, she wrote and defended a senior thesis which she titled, “Impact of Policy on the Feasibility of Electric Vehicle (EV) Infrastructure: If You Build It, Will They Come?”



ANNA CLAIRE RYAN
AEO INTERN

Also during her senior year at the University of the Ozarks, Ryan was the Transportation Electrification Intern at Clarksville Connected Utilities. Her focus there was to determine the readiness of the Clarksville School District to take advantage of the Advanced Bus and Clean (ABC) Transportation Program. The ABC Transportation Program is a competitive funding assistance program funded by the Volkswagen Settlement fund. Operated out of the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment’s Office of Air, the program’s goal is to reduce emissions by helping schools and municipalities with transit buses to replace their fleets with alternative-fueled or all-electric equivalents. Although the Clarksville School District leadership decided they couldn’t afford to make the switch this year, Ryan walked away having learned a great deal about the ABC program and gaining more knowledge of electric vehicles.

Ryan, who plans to begin law school this fall, said she doesn’t have an EV now, but she definitely would like to become an EV owner sometime soon. She said a possible career goal is to be legal counsel for an energy efficiency company, but she definitely knows she’d like to combine her interests in the law and energy efficiency.

Ryan, who played tennis for the University of the Ozarks Eagles all four years of college, grew up in Woodville, a small town in Mississippi. When she goes back home, she always spends time with her family’s ponies—all of which are named after mafia leaders. A favorite of hers? Maybe Al Capone-y.

NEWS & EVENTS

E&E’S SECRETARY KEOGH SPEAKS AT NWA EV INFRASTRUCTURE MEETING

Arkansas Department of Energy & Environment Cabinet Secretary Becky W. Keogh was one of the featured speakers at the June 9 NWA EV Infrastructure Meeting at Arvest Ballpark in Springdale, Ark. Keogh said she was excited about the momentum she sees building in relation to the electric vehicle infrastructure in Arkansas.

According to a White House fact sheet from that same day, “The National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) program will provide \$5 billion in formula funding to States to build out charging infrastructure along highway corridors—filling gaps in rural, disadvantaged, and hard-to-reach locations while instilling public confidence in charging.”



GREEN TRANSPORTATION SUMMIT & EXPO TACOMA, WA | AUGUST 16-18, 2022

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