



March 28, 2024

Shane Khoury, Cabinet Secretary
Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118

Re: Climate Pollution Reduction Grants – Implementation Grants Letter of Support

Secretary Khoury:

The University of Arkansas is pleased to offer this letter of support for the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment and the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality's coalition application for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Implementation Grant General Competition. As a land-grant institution, we are invested in advancing the economic prosperity of the state through both our educational mission that prepares the workforce of the future and the cutting-edge and impactful research being conducted by faculty across campus.

The University of Arkansas has worked for many years with the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment as well as with partners in neighboring states on projects related to the diversification necessary to support Arkansas's "all the above" energy approach. The Highway 412 Hydrogen Corridor Connector proposal will connect major manufacturing, shipping, and logistics organizations in Northwest Arkansas interested in taking advantage of planned hydrogen and electric vehicle corridors along Interstate 44 and 40 in Oklahoma. The proposal will also enable the states to support further the build-out of hydrogen fueling and electric vehicle charging infrastructure throughout Arkansas and Oklahoma. If selected for this award, the University's research strengths and workforce development capabilities closely align with the work required to advance hydrogen fueling and electric vehicle charging infrastructure in Arkansas and Oklahoma.

We appreciate your leadership and dedication to advancing energy innovation in our state that enhances our energy security, reduces emissions of air pollutants, and supports shared goals for a sustainable and prosperous future. We are eager to support this and ongoing efforts to ensure clean, reliable transportation solutions that benefit our region and the entire country.

Sincerely,

Dr. Charles F. Robinson
Chancellor