



ARKANSAS ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

Sarah Huckabee Sanders
GOVERNOR

Shane E. Khoury
SECRETARY

March 18, 2024

Metroplan

Attn: Casey Covington, Executive Director
501 W. Markham St., Ste. B
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: Letter of Commitment for Arkansas Tri-Region Coalition's CPRG application

Dear Mr. Covington,

The Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment (E&E) would like to take this opportunity to express the Department's support for the Arkansas Tri-Region Coalition's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) implementation application. Each of the participants in this Coalition has served as an effective partner during the development of the Arkansas Energy & Environment Innovation Plan. Now, E&E is pleased to support the future collaborative work of this Coalition.

As The Natural State, the environment is prized by all Arkansans. Arkansas boasts abundant environmental assets, including pristine forests, waterways, and diverse ecosystems. Protecting these natural treasures ensures a sustainable future for generations to come. The Coalition's application supports projects that will contribute to high air quality and improved public health for communities throughout the state.

The land conservation/restoration, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, energy efficiency, and workforce development measures outlined in the Tri-Region Coalition's application mirror Gov. Sarah Sanders's state investment priorities of Facilitating Statewide Economic Growth and Competitiveness, Preparing the Infrastructure Workforce, Preserving and Promoting The Natural State, and Creating a Portfolio of Reliable, Efficient, and Secure Energy Options.

E&E appreciates your collaboration on this project and welcomes your continued efforts to pursue projects across Arkansas' three largest metro areas. We are eager to support the Coalition's efforts to protect The Natural State and ensure environmental and economic benefits to over one-half of Arkansas' population.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Caleb J. Osborne".

Caleb J. Osborne
Chief Administrator, Environment
Division of Environmental Quality, Director
Arkansas Department of Energy & Environment