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Affordable Clean Energy Rule/Clean Air Act: Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment Announces October 24th Stakeholder Meeting

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The Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment, Division of Environmental Quality ("DEQ") announced it will hold a stakeholder meeting on October 24th addressing the Affordable Clean Energy ("ACE") Rule.

The agenda for the meeting is stated to include:

- opportunity to provide an overview of the requirements of the ACE Rule
- process for development of a state plan to comply with the ACE Rule
- · comments on the process

The United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") previously issued the ACE Rule to replace the 2015 Clean Power Plan. EPA has described the ACE Rule as having several components, which include:

- determination of the best system of emission reduction for greenhouse gas emissions from coal-fired power assets
- a list of candidate technology states can use when developing their plans
- a new preliminary applicability test for determining whether a physical or operational change made to a power plan may be a major modification triggering New Source Review
- new implementing regulations for emission guidelines under Section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act

Opponents of the ACE Rule have argued that a low bar is set for emission reductions and no numerical standards or targets for greenhouse gas reductions are established.

A copy of the DEQ announcement can be downloaded here.