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Arkansas Air Program: Arkansas Department of Energy & Environment/Division of Environmental Quality Notes Leadership in Air Permitting Efficiency

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The Arkansas Department of Energy & Environmental Division of Environmental Quality (“DEQ”) issued a news release citing what it describes as a continuation of its leadership among state regulatory agencies in permitting efficiency.

DEQ cites its soon to be released 2019 State of the Air Report which is said to indicate:

... that Arkansas major source air permit issuance remains among the quickest in nation as measured by DEQ’s ranking among other state air quality regulators.

Examples of air permitting efficiency cited include:

- All Title V permit significant modifications were accomplished within 18 months with one exception
- All Title V permits were renewed within the prescribed time period

Quotes from Arkansas Energy and Environment Secretary, Division of Environmental Quality Director Becky W. Keogh and Mitch Rouse, Office of Air Quality Senior Associate Director, respectively, reference Arkansas’s clearance of its backlog in U.S. Environmental Protection Agency review of State Implementation Plans and achievement of the goal of reducing permit lead times in the State.

DEQ states that the 2019 State of the Air Report will be published in the first quarter of 2020. The prior report (2018) focused on:

- Air Quality in Arkansas
- Arkansas Office of Air Quality Program Activities/Achievements During Fiscal Year 2018

The report was organized by Office of Air Quality Program or Branch and provided a number of statistics.

A copy of the news release which provides a link to the prior 2018 report can be found [here](#).