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Hydrogen Development/Production/Use: Arkansas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma Announce Partnership

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The Arkansas Department of Energy & Environment – Division of Environmental Quality ("DEQ") issued a March 10th news release stating that Arkansas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma have entered into what is described as a:

... bipartisan three-state partnership to establish a regional hub for development, production, and use of clean hydrogen as fuel and manufacturing feedstock.

The three states have agreed to compete as a unit for funding established in the recently enacted federal Infrastructure, Investment, and Jobs Act ("Act").

The Act directs the United States Department of Energy ("DOE") to select regional clean hydrogen hubs to fund. Criteria for selection in the Act include:

- Feed stock available to produce hydrogen
- Available users of hydrogen
- Geographical locations
- Potential effects on employment

Arkansas Secretary of Energy & Environment Becky W. Keogh has been selected by Governor Hutchinson to serve as a designee to the partnership. Such designees are described as having the primary authority and point of contact for coordinating governmental, research, and private sector efforts to promote hydrogen development and use.

Hydrogen is described as a "clean-burning fuel source that can help reduce carbon emissions from manufacturing, heavy industry and long haul trucking."

A copy of the news release can be downloaded <u>here</u>.