

8th Annual Arkansas Environmental Policy Summit/Conway/November 16th: Keynote Speaker Announced



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As previously referenced in a [September 20th blog](#), the 8th Annual Arkansas Environmental Policy Summit ("Summit") is being held at Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas.

The event is being held on November 16th.

Audubon Delta has announced that Gerardo Acosta, who is Director of the Office of Communities, Tribes, and Environmental Assessment for the Region VI Office of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, will be the keynote speaker.

Mr. Acosta is described as focusing heavily on EPA Region VI's environmental justice work.

Workshops announced for the Summit include:

- The energy and environmental impacts of the recently passed Inflation Reduction Act
- Community agriculture and "food deserts"
- Arkansas water issues and the updating of the State Water Plan
- Renewable energy and the need for improved electric transmission capacity

Other speakers and workshop panelists include:

- Wes Ward, Arkansas Secretary of Agriculture
- Kim O'Guinn, Director of State Regulator Policy for Southwest Power Pool, former Arkansas Public Service Commissioner
- Simon Mahan, Executive Director of the Southern Renewable Energy Association
- William Cunningham, Director of Resource Planning and Market Operations for Entergy Arkansas, LLC
- Ben Washington, Federal Relief & Infrastructure Spending Campaign Coordinator, Arkansas Public Policy Panel

Sponsors include:

- Arkansas Climate League
- Arkansas Interfaith Power & Light
- Arkansas Public Policy Panel
- Audubon Delta
- Arkansas Natural Sky Association
- Sierra Club
- Zero Hour

Registration information can be found [here](#).