

ON THE AIR

WITH E&E

OFFICE OF AIR QUALITY
DIRECTOR'S UPDATE



ARKANSAS
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

OVERVIEW

LIVE @ OAQ

- Office management restructuring
- SEEK transition

REGULATORY & FUNDING UPDATES

- Final Rules: PM2.5, MATS, GHGs
- Grants: CPRG, IRA/IIJA Air Monitoring
Network Funding

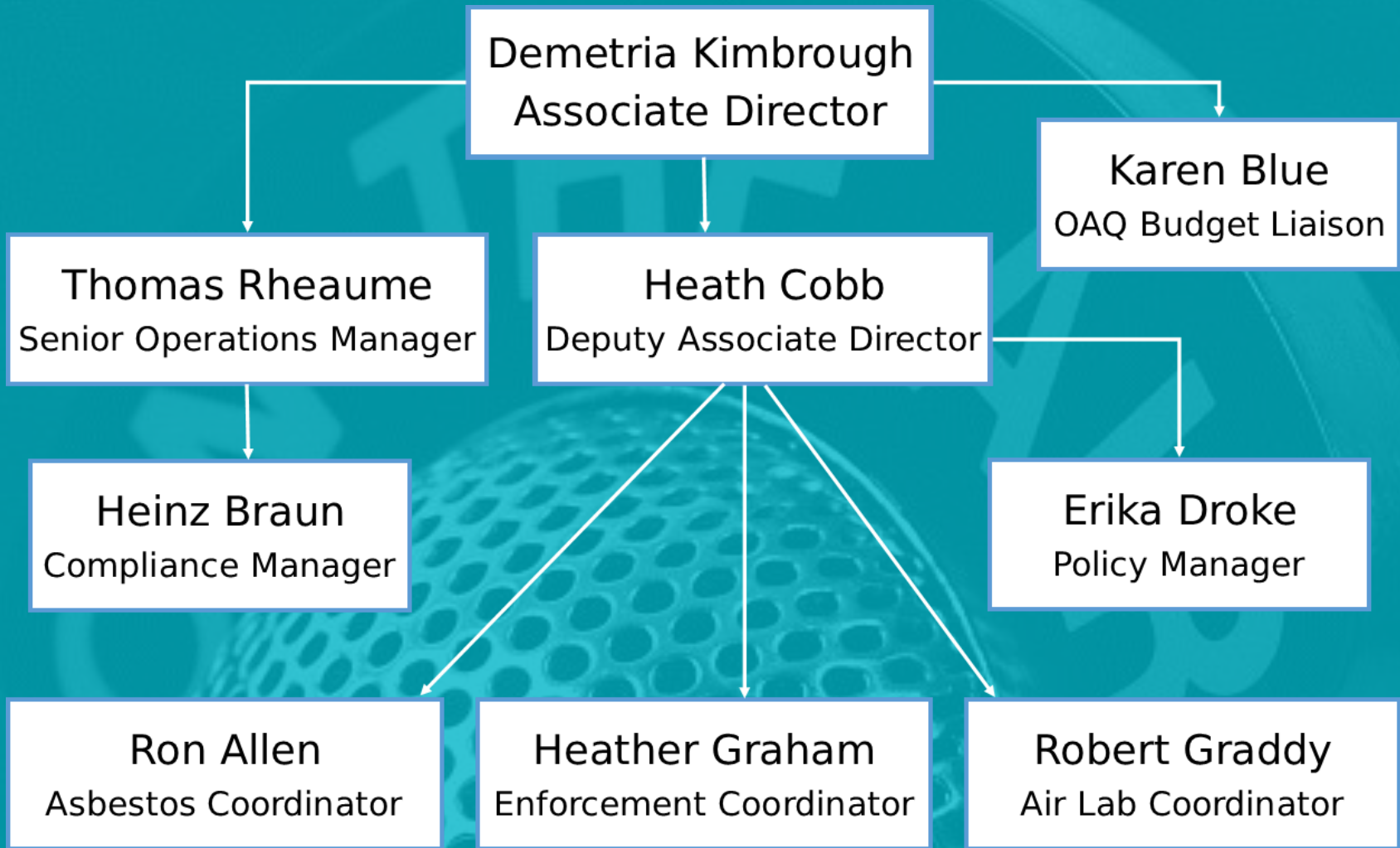


LIVE
@ OAQ:
MANAGEMENT

Associate Director
Demetria Kimbrough

Deputy Associate Director
Heath Cobb

Senior Operations Manager
Tom Rheume





LIVE
@ OAQ:
SEEK
TRANSITION

Asbestos is the first OAQ team
to test SEEK

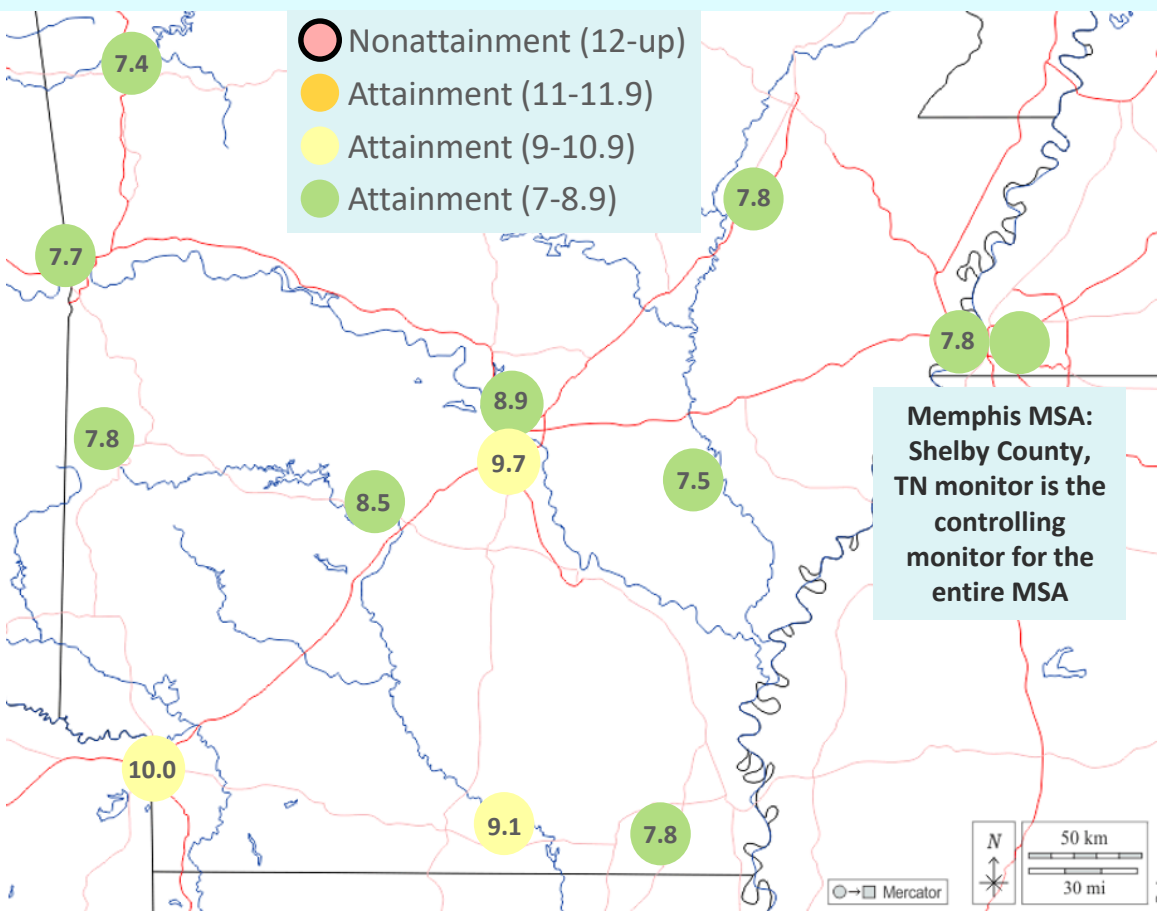
Integrated account and
documentation management for
permitted sources

Streamlined processing
and account services

REGULATORY UPDATE: RULES & SIPS

Rule/Subject	Affected Sources	Arkansas Notes	Plan Going Forward
EGU GHGs 111(d) Rule	Coal-fired EGUs	3 EGUs must address various requirements (5 years from effective date of Rule)	Outreach, Rulemaking & SIP Development (Due 2 years after publish date- 2026)
Oil & Gas GHGs 111(d) Rule	Unknown; estimate a very large universe of sources	Monumental effort; will require collaboration across E&E Offices (3 years after state plan, generally- 2029)	Outreach, Rulemaking & SIP Development (Due March 8, 2026)
EGU MATS Rule	Coal-fired EGUs	4 EGUs must install PM CEMS (2027 compliance deadline)	Outreach (Requirements in Permits)
PM 2.5 Standard (lowered to 9) NAAQS Rule	Unknown	Suspect 2-3 counties in AR to be designated NA, affecting PSD & Permitting	Designations process— 2024-25 ; Outreach, Rulemaking & i-SIP Development to follow
Ozone in Crittenden Co.	N/A	Voluntary efforts during Ozone Season will be crucial for addressing Arkansas's contribution	2 nd 10-year Maintenance SIP for 2008 Ozone due summer 2024 ; development in progress

2020 – 2022 Design Values Relative to 12 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ Annual $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ NAAQS (2015 Standard)



Final 2020 $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ NAAQS

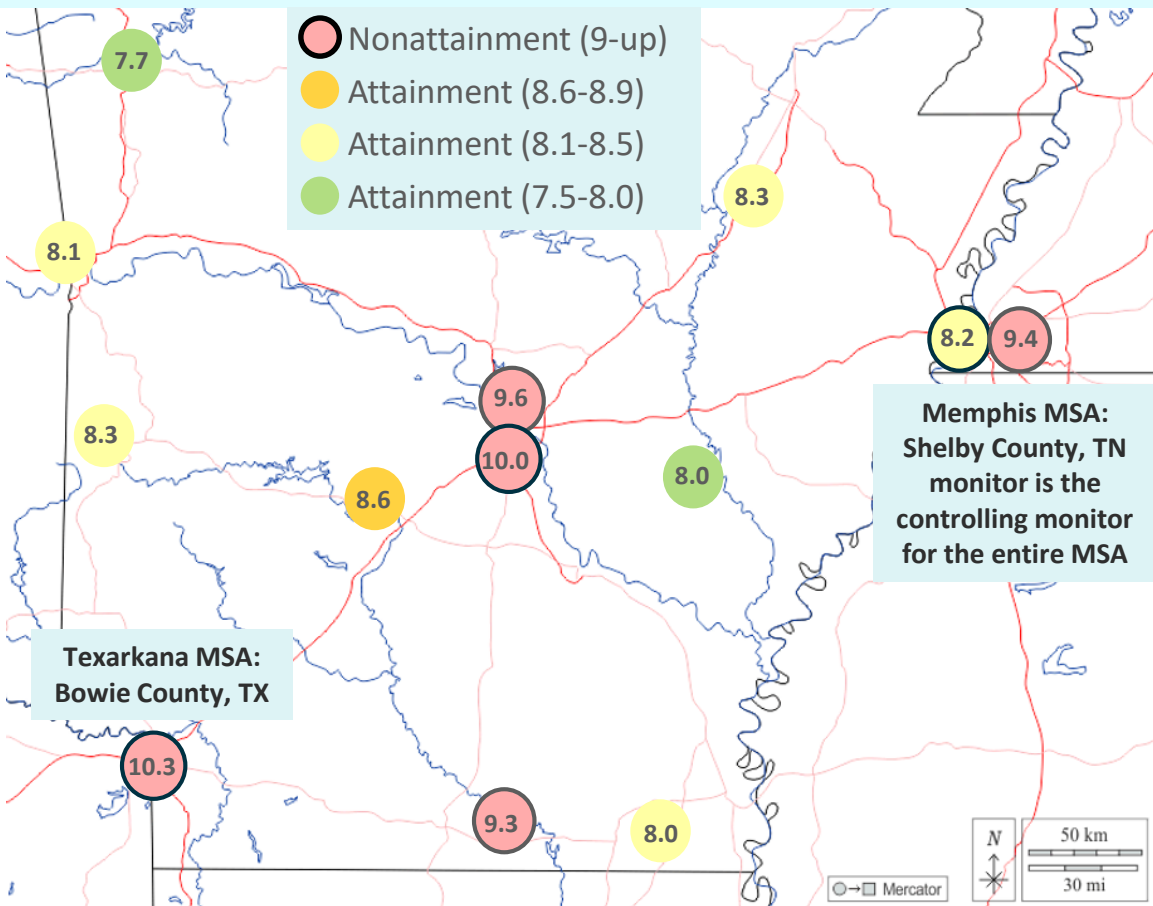
February 7, 2024

Annual $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ NAAQS lowered:
from 12 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ to 9 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

EPA used 2020-2022 data to
develop the rule & regulatory
impact analysis

Designation letters due to EPA
February 7, 2025
(2021-2023 data)

2021 – 2023 Design Values Relative to Revised 9 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ Annual $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ NAAQS (New Standard)



Final 2020 $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ NAAQS

2023 data not yet “final”
Will be used for State’s
Designation Letter to EPA

EPA Final Designations
February 6, 2026
(2022-2024 data)

REGULATORY UPDATE: ODDS & ENDS

Rule/Subject	Updates for Arkansas
2015 Ozone Transport – SIP and FIP	<p>Tied up in litigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• P&P is prepared to act, dependent on outcome
Regional Haze Planning Period II SIP	<p>Proposed Consent Decree (March 28, 2024) compelling EPA action on 33 RH SIPS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• EPA must issue Proposed Action on AR RH SIP August 31, 2025• EPA must issue Final Action on AR RH SIP August 31, 2026 <p>EPA R6 reported in quarterly call with DEQ they were drafting a proposed approval of Arkansas’s PPII RH SIP (Early March 2024)</p>
Regional Haze Planning Period III	<p>EPA and states discussing changes to strategies moving forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Possible “off-ramps” for states because of visibility progress• Simplified processes and demonstrations likely to result

FUNDING UPDATE: GRANTS

- ✔ Developed and submitted the Arkansas Energy and Environment Innovation Plan under CPRG Planning Funds March 2024 (Comprehensive EEI Plan due to EPA 2025)
- ✔ Awarded 2 grants under IRA/IIJA funding to improve the state's monitoring network, update equipment, train staff, and automate AQ data processes.

GO RED! (REDUCING EMISSIONS FROM DIESELS)

- ✔ Over 1 million in funding assistance distributed in 2023-2024
- ✔ This year's program was open only one month before all funds allocated!
- ✔ Changes coming to simplify the application process, set aside funds for specific air quality goals (Crittenden County PM and Ozone, for example)

KEEP IN TOUCH



OFFICE OF AIR QUALITY

5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118



PHONE

t: 501.682.0927



EMAIL

Demetria.Kimbrough@adeq.state.ar.us



WEBSITE

<https://www.adeq.state.ar.us/air>



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