

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS
CENTRAL DIVISION**

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
AND ENVIRONMENT, DIVISION OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY; MICHAEL REGAN, IN HIS
OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS
ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED
STATES ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY,

Defendants.

Case No. 4:22-cv-359 (BSM)

JOINT STATUS REPORT

In accordance with the Court's August 23, 2022 order, ECF No. 33, and as represented in the parties' February 21, 2023 status report, ECF No. 35, Plaintiff Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment, Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Defendants, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Michael Regan, in his official capacity as Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (collectively, EPA), through counsel, respectfully submit this status report. The parties continue to hold settlement discussions and envision a multi-step settlement framework. The parties therefore continue to believe that good cause exists to further explore a global settlement of both this litigation and the related litigation pending in Circuit Court (*Arkansas Dep't of Energy and Env't. v. EPA*, Case No. 22-1831 (8th Cir.)). The parties request that the Court continue the stay to allow sufficient time for extended discussions

to take place and propose to submit another status report in 120 days, on or before October 19, 2023.

Dated: June 21, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Anna Wildeman

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