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# Air Monitoring/Clean Air Act: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Announces Grant to Support Arkansas PM 2.5 Monitoring Network

## Arkansas Environmental, Energy, and Water Law Blog

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The United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") issued a July 26<sup>th</sup> news release stating it had awarded \$564,000 to the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality ("ADEQ") to support air monitoring programs.

EPA states that PM 2.5 is composed of microscopic solids and liquid droplets suspended in the air (which can contain materials such as metals; soils and dust; organic chemicals; acids; and pollen, mold spores, and other allergens).

Various methods and techniques are used to determine the quantity of a given pollutant in the ambient air and/or the amount of emissions generated by its source. Sampling ambient air conditions is an important part of the process for determining whether an area is and/or will remain in compliance with the relevant Clean Air Act National Ambient Quality Standards. ADEQ operates a number of sampling stations to monitor the various state Air Quality Control Regions' compliance with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

EPA states that the \$564,000 grant will assist ADEQ in maintaining the State of Arkansas's monitoring network for fine particulates (i.e., PM 2.5).

[A copy of the news release can be downloaded here.](#)