

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

EO 21-21

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

**EXECUTIVE ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE ARKANSAS ENERGY RESOURCES COUNCIL**

WHEREAS: Winter storms in early 2021 revealed vulnerabilities in critical energy resources in Arkansas and the surrounding region; and

WHEREAS: On March 3, 2021, the Governor signed EO 21-05 which created the Energy Resources Planning Task Force to evaluate the ability of Arkansas's critical energy resources and infrastructure to withstand extreme events; and

WHEREAS: The Energy Resources Planning Task Force members and staff conducted a series of internal and external stakeholder hearings to gather information and responses from pertinent stakeholder groups and organizations; and

WHEREAS: More than thirty (30) stakeholder organizations provided testimony and comments to the Energy Resources Planning Task Force; and

WHEREAS: The Energy Resources Planning Task Force concluded its work and provided its report to the Governor outlining findings and recommendations; and

WHEREAS: One recommendation was to create the Arkansas Energy Resources Council to facilitate technical and policy discussion among regulators and energy stakeholders on an annual basis and to develop and maintain educational materials on best practices regarding preparedness and communication in advance and during events that may disrupt the supply of critical energy resources;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, acting under the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Arkansas, do hereby order the following:

- (1) There is hereby created the Arkansas Energy Resources Council.
- (2) The Arkansas Energy Resources Council shall meet at least once annually to facilitate technical and policy discussion among regulators and energy stakeholders and to develop and maintain educational materials on best practices regarding preparedness and communication in advance and during events that may disrupt the supply of critical energy resources.
- (3) The Department of Energy and Environment shall be responsible for hosting and planning the Arkansas Energy Resources Council meetings.
- (4) The Arkansas Energy Resources Council shall be composed of members appointed by the Governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The Secretary of the Department of Energy and Environment shall serve as the chairman of the Energy Resources Council. The Arkansas Energy Resources Council shall be composed of the following individuals or his or her designee:
  - a) The Secretary of the Department of Energy and Environment;
  - b) The Secretary of the Department of Commerce;
  - c) The Chairman of the Arkansas Public Service;

- d) The Arkansas Attorney General;
- e) The Director of the Arkansas Division of Emergency Management;
- f) The President and Chief Executive Officer of Entergy;
- g) The President of Empire District Electric Company;
- h) The President and Chief Executive Officer of Electric Cooperative Corporation of Arkansas;
- i) The President and Chief Executive Officer of Oklahoma Gas and Electric;
- j) The President and Chief Operating Officer of Southwestern Electric Power Company;
- k) The President and Chief Executive Officer of Black Hills Corporation;
- l) The President and Chief Executive Officer of Summit Utilities;
- m) The Director of the Arkansas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners (AIPRO);
- n) The Director of the Arkansas Propane Gas Association APGA;
- o) The Chief Executive Officer of Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.;
- p) The President and Chief Executive Officer of Southwest Power Pool, Inc.;
- q) The President and Chief Executive Officer of the Arkansas Municipal Power Association;
- r) The President and Chief Executive Officer of the Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce;
- s) The President of the Arkansas Forest and Paper Council;
- t) A Representative of Arkansas Gas Consumers, Inc.; and
- u) A Representative of Arkansas Electric Energy Consumers, Inc.

(5) The Department of Energy and Environment shall host educational materials developed by the Arkansas Energy Resources Council on its website.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed the 20th day of December, in the year of our Lord 2021.



*Asa Hutchinson*

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

*John Thurston*  
 John Thurston, Secretary of State