

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Fiscal Session, 2026
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1074

5 By: Joint Budget Committee
6
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For An Act To Be Entitled

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9 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES
10 AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
11 AND ENVIRONMENT - OIL AND GAS COMMISSION FOR THE
12 FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2027; AND FOR OTHER
13 PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

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17 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND
18 ENVIRONMENT - OIL AND GAS COMMISSION
19 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL
20 YEAR.
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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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25 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - OIL AND GAS COMMISSION. There is hereby
26 established for the Department of Energy and Environment - Oil and Gas
27 Commission for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of
28 regular employees.
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		Maximum Annual	
		Maximum	Salary Rate
Item	Class	No. of	Fiscal Year
No.	Code Title	Employees	2026-2027
34	(1) PEM05C PRODUCTION & CONSERVATION DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SPC09
35	(2) PEM01C E & E ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR	2	GRADE SPC05
36	(3) SGE04P PETROLEUM GEOLOGIST	2	GRADE SPC05



1	(4)	PEP03P ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT PROG SUPV/EXP	2	GRADE SGS09
2	(5)	FFS05P FISCAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS07
3	(6)	IIN05P INSPECTOR SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	2	GRADE SGS07
4	(7)	PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	3	GRADE SGS05
5	(8)	IIN02P INSPECTOR II	9	GRADE SGS05
6	(9)	PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	4	GRADE SGS04
7	(10)	PAS03P ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	3	GRADE SGS02
8	(11)	IIS11P IT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE IST09
9	(12)	IGI01P GIS ANALYST	1	GRADE IST05
10	(13)	IUS01P USER SUPPORT ANALYST	<u>2</u>	GRADE IST04
11		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	33	

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13 SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - OIL AND GAS COMMISSION. There is hereby

14 authorized, for the Department of Energy and Environment - Oil and Gas

15 Commission for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of

16 part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from

17 funds appropriated herein for such purposes: six (6) temporary or part-time

18 employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the

19 Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act

20 for the appropriate classification.

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22 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - OIL AND GAS COMMISSION - OPERATIONS. There

23 is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Energy and Environment, to be

24 payable from the Oil and Gas Commission Fund, for personal services and

25 operating expenses of the Department of Energy and Environment - Oil and Gas

26 Commission - Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the

27 following:

29	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
30	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
31	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$1,912,320
32	(02) EXTRA HELP	60,000
33	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	705,017
34	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
35	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	887,197
36	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	40,000

1	(C) PROF. FEES	25,000
2	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	200,000
3	(E) DATA PROC.	0
4	(05) POLLUTION CONTROL	275,000
5	(06) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS	100,000
6	(07) DATA PROCESSING SERVICES	348,217
7	(08) INTERSTATE OIL COMPACT	35,000
8	(09) UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL	100,000
9	(10) GROUNDWATER PROTECTION	12,500
10	(11) ENERGY EDUCATION	<u>30,000</u>
11	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$4,730,251</u></u>

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13 SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - OIL AND GAS COMMISSION - REFUNDS AND

14 REIMBURSEMENTS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Energy

15 and Environment, to be payable from cash funds as defined by Arkansas Code

16 §19-4-801, for refunds and reimbursements of the Department of Energy and

17 Environment - Oil and Gas Commission - Refunds and Reimbursements for the

18 fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

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20	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
21	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
22	(01) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS	<u><u>\$200,000</u></u>

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24 SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - OIL AND GAS COMMISSION - WELL PLUGGING

25 PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Energy and

26 Environment, to be payable from the Abandoned and Orphaned Well Plugging

27 Fund, for well plugging program expenses of the Department of Energy and

28 Environment - Oil and Gas Commission - Well Plugging Program for the fiscal

29 year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

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31	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
32	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
33	(01) WELL PLUGGING EXPENSES	<u><u>\$12,500,000</u></u>

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35 SECTION 6. REGULAR SALARIES - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST. There is

36 hereby established for the Department of Energy and Environment - Office of

1 the State Geologist for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum
 2 number of regular employees.

		Maximum	Maximum Annual
		No. of	Salary Rate
Item	Class	Fiscal Year	
No.	Code Title	Employees	2026-2027
8	(1) EEX46A STATE GEOLOGIST	1	GRADE SPC09
9	(2) SGE03C MANAGING GEOLOGIST	1	GRADE SPC05
10	(3) SGE04P PETROLEUM GEOLOGIST	1	GRADE SPC05
11	(4) SGE05P PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIST	5	GRADE SPC03
12	(5) SGE01P GEOLOGIST	5	GRADE SPC01
13	(6) TAT03I ENGINEERING SPECIALIST	2	GRADE SGS05
14	(7) PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS04
15	(8) FFS04P FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE SGS04
16	(9) IAS08I WEBSITE SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IST05
17	(10) IGI01P GIS ANALYST	1	GRADE IST05
18	(11) IUS01P USER SUPPORT ANALYST	<u>1</u>	GRADE IST04
19	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	20	

21 SECTION 7. EXTRA HELP - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST. There is hereby
 22 authorized, for the Department of Energy and Environment - Office of the
 23 State Geologist for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number
 24 of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable
 25 from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: eight (8) temporary or
 26 part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those
 27 provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its
 28 successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

30 SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST - OPERATIONS.
 31 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Energy and Environment, to
 32 be payable from the Oil and Gas Commission Fund, for personal services and
 33 operating expenses of the Department of Energy and Environment - Office of
 34 the State Geologist - Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027,
 35 the following:

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ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$1,200,371
(02) EXTRA HELP	45,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	429,458
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	257,047
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	8,000
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	40,000
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$1,979,876</u></u>

SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST - MAP RESALE PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Energy and Environment, to be payable from the Geology Map Resale Revolving Fund, for operating expenses of the Department of Energy and Environment - Office of the State Geologist - Map Resale Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) RESALE REVOLVING FUND	<u><u>\$49,000</u></u>

SECTION 10. REGULAR SALARIES - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST - STATE GEOLOGIC MAPPING PROGRAM. There is hereby established for the Department of Energy and Environment - Office of the State Geologist - State Geologic Mapping Program for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

Item Class	Maximum	Maximum Annual
<u>No. Code Title</u>	<u>No. of</u>	<u>Salary Rate</u>
<u>No. Code Title</u>	<u>Employees</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>
<u>No. Code Title</u>	<u>Employees</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(1) SGE01P GEOLOGIST	<u>1</u>	GRADE SPC01
MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	1	

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SECTION 11. EXTRA HELP - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST - STATE GEOLOGIC MAPPING PROGRAM. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Energy and Environment - Office of the State Geologist - State Geologic Mapping Program for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: six (6) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST - STATE GEOLOGIC MAPPING PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Energy and Environment, to be payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Energy and Environment - Office of the State Geologist - State Geologic Mapping Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$43,660
(02) EXTRA HELP	48,779
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	21,681
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	77,742
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$191,862</u></u>

SECTION 13. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST - GEOLOGY MUSEUM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Energy and Environment, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for museum expenses

1 of the Department of Energy and Environment - Office of the State Geologist -
 2 Geology Museum for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) MUSEUM EXPENSES	<u>\$1,125</u>

8 SECTION 14. REGULAR SALARIES - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST -
 9 GEOLOGICAL RESEARCH - LANDSLIDE/SINKHOLE. There is hereby established for
 10 the Department of Energy and Environment - Office of the State Geologist -
 11 Geological Research - Landslide/Sinkhole for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the
 12 following maximum number of regular employees.

Item	Class	Maximum	Maximum Annual
<u>No.</u>	<u>Code Title</u>	<u>No. of</u>	<u>Salary Rate</u>
		<u>Employees</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>
			<u>2026-2027</u>
(1)	SGE01P GEOLOGIST	<u>1</u>	GRADE SPC01
	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	1	

21 SECTION 15. EXTRA HELP - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST - GEOLOGICAL
 22 RESEARCH - LANDSLIDE/SINKHOLE. There is hereby authorized, for the
 23 Department of Energy and Environment - Office of the State Geologist -
 24 Geological Research - Landslide/Sinkhole for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the
 25 following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as
 26 "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: two
 27 (2) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to
 28 exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or
 29 its successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

31 SECTION 16. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF THE STATE GEOLOGIST - GEOLOGICAL
 32 RESEARCH - LANDSLIDE/SINKHOLE. There is hereby appropriated, to the
 33 Department of Energy and Environment, to be payable from the cash fund
 34 deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of
 35 the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of
 36 Energy and Environment - Office of the State Geologist - Geological Research

1 - Landslide/Sinkhole for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
NO.	2026-2027
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$49,011
(02) EXTRA HELP	27,328
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	21,268
(04) GEOLOGICAL RESEARCH	<u>143,762</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$241,369</u></u>

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11 SECTION 17. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds
 12 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency
 13 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and
 14 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and
 15 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary
 16 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal
 17 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by
 18 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be
 19 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

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21 SECTION 18. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General
 22 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations
 23 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for
 24 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive
 25 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget
 26 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or
 27 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative
 28 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

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30 SECTION 19. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
 31 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits
 32 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the
 33 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2026 is essential to the operation of
 34 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in
 35 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the
 36 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2026 could work irreparable harm

1 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental
2 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act
3 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health
4 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2026.

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