

Stricken language will be deleted and underlined language will be added.

State of Arkansas
94th General Assembly
Fiscal Session, 2024

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1079

By: Representatives Unger, Lundstrum

By: Senator C. Penzo

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR GROUNDWATER SAMPLING FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT - DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY WHICH SHALL BE SUPPLEMENTAL AND IN ADDITION TO THOSE FUNDS APPROPRIATED BY ACT 570 OF 2023; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT - DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - GROUNDWATER SAMPLING. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Energy and Environment, to be payable from the Hazardous Substance Remedial Action Trust Fund, for contractual services with the University of Arkansas Department of Geosciences to sample groundwater in Tontitown, Arkansas and the surrounding Boone Formation, conduct research, and publish findings, in order to gauge the impact of the Eco-Vista Landfill, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR
(01) CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	2023-2024
	<u>\$1,046,553</u>

SECTION 2. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS



CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

GROUNDWATER SAMPLING. The Department of Energy and Environment – Division of Environmental Quality shall budget, allocate, and expend one million forty six thousand five hundred fifty three dollars (\$1,046,553), from the Hazardous Substance Remedial Action Trust Fund, to contract with the University of Arkansas Department of Geosciences to sample groundwater in Tontitown, Arkansas and the surrounding Boone Formation, conduct research, and publish findings, in order to gauge the impact of the Eco-Vista landfill. The department shall enter into the contract by September 1, 2024. The contract shall require a report on research conducted and findings from said research, to be completed by October 1, 2026. The report shall be submitted to Legislative Council by October 31, 2026.

The provisions of this section shall be in affect only from July 1, 2023 through September 1, 2024.

SECTION 3. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

SECTION 4. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly, that funds provided by the General Assembly for the operations of

the Department of Energy and Environment - Division of Environmental Quality are, due to unforeseen circumstances, insufficient for the Department of Energy and Environment - Division of Environmental Quality to continue to provide essential governmental services; that the provisions of this act will provide the necessary monies for the Department of Energy and Environment - Division of Environmental Quality to continue such services; and that a delay in the effective date of this Act could work irreparable harm upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and approval.

If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, it shall become effective on the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill. If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, it shall become effective on the date the last house overrides the veto.