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Attorney General Griffin Co-Leads 25-State Lawsuit to Block Federal Rule Harmful to Oil and Gas Jobs

Griffin: '[This rule] severely impedes the ability of oil and gas operators in Arkansas to do business, all for the sake of extremely marginal environmental gains that may not even exist'

LITTLE ROCK – Attorney General Tim Griffin released the following statement after co-leading a lawsuit on behalf of 24 state attorneys general and one state legislature in the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit blocking emission standards set by the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):

“The EPA’s rule for emissions regulating the oil and gas industry sets standards that far exceed the agency’s statutory authority. It severely impedes the ability of oil and gas operators in Arkansas to do business, all for the sake of extremely marginal environmental gains that may not even exist. If this arbitrary rule stands, it would result in the loss of Arkansas jobs.

“This is a classic example of overreach by the executive branch with little regard for the real-world impacts of its actions. That’s why I’ve joined with 24 other states to petition the D.C. Circuit to declare this rule unlawful and vacate the EPA’s enactment of it.”

To read the petition that Griffin is co-leading with the attorneys general of Oklahoma and West Virginia, [click here](#).

About Attorney General Tim Griffin

Tim Griffin was sworn in as the 57th Attorney General of Arkansas on January 10, 2023, having previously served as the state's 20th Lieutenant Governor from 2015-2023. From 2011-2015, Griffin served as the 24th representative of Arkansas's Second Congressional District, where he served on the House Committee on Ways and Means, House Armed Services Committee, House Committee on Foreign Affairs, House Committee on Ethics and House Committee on the Judiciary while also serving as a Deputy Whip for the Majority.

Griffin has served as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserve Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps for more than 27 years and currently holds the rank of colonel. In 2005, Griffin was mobilized to active duty as an Army prosecutor at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and served with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) in Mosul, Iraq.

He is currently serving as the Commander of the 2d Legal Operations Detachment in New Orleans, Louisiana. His previous assignments include serving as the Commander of the 134th Legal Operations Detachment at Fort Liberty (née Bragg), North Carolina, and as a Senior Legislative Advisor to the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness at the Pentagon. Griffin earned a master's degree in strategic studies as a Distinguished Honor Graduate from the U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania.

Griffin also served as U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas, and Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of Political Affairs for President George W. Bush; Special Assistant to Assistant Attorney General Michael Chertoff, Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice; Special Assistant U.S. Attorney, U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Arkansas; Senior Investigative Counsel, Government Reform and Oversight Committee, U.S. House of Representatives; and Associate Independent Counsel, Office of Independent Counsel David M. Barrett, In re: HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros.

Griffin is a graduate of Magnolia High School, Hendrix College in Conway, and Tulane Law School in New Orleans. He attended graduate school at Oxford University. He is admitted to practice law in Arkansas (active) and Louisiana (inactive). Griffin lives in Little Rock with his wife, Elizabeth, a Camden native, and their three children.

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