



Pope County

Office of Emergency Management

4 Emergency Lane
Russellville, AR 72802
Phone: (479)968-1800 Fax: (479)967-2231

Date: August 3, 2026

Subject: Letter of Support

Dear members of the Joint Energy Committee,

On behalf of the Pope County Office of Emergency Management, I am pleased to provide this letter in support of the continued evaluation of nuclear energy opportunities in Arkansas from the perspective of emergency preparedness and public safety.

Pope County has maintained a nuclear emergency preparedness program since the 1970s. Over the years, our office has worked closely with local, state, and federal partners to develop and sustain emergency response plans, training programs, exercises, and public preparedness initiatives. Administration of Arkansas's nuclear emergency preparedness program has evolved from the Arkansas Department of Health to the Arkansas Division of Emergency Management, ensuring continued coordination, oversight, and support for local response agencies.

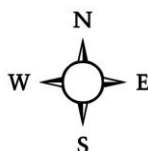
Through dedicated nuclear preparedness funding, Pope County Emergency Management has been able to maintain specialized training, equipment, planning, and exercise programs that prepare responders to manage radiological emergencies effectively. These investments have strengthened our capabilities while enhancing coordination among law enforcement, fire departments, EMS, hospitals, public health, public works, schools, utilities, and other response partners.

Pope County also maintains an active Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), bringing together public and private stakeholders to coordinate hazardous materials planning and emergency preparedness throughout our community. This collaborative approach further strengthens our ability to respond to complex incidents and protect the public. Our office remains committed to protecting the citizens of Pope County through comprehensive planning, preparedness, and coordinated response. We stand ready to continue working with our local, state, and federal partners to ensure our community remains prepared to safely support any future nuclear operations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Guthrie Boyd
Asst. Director
Pope County OEM

Justin Drittler
Director



Guthrie Boyd
Asst. Director