

Energy

ARCH2 hydrogen hub retained by Trump administration despite earlier doubts



The site of the ARCH2 project management office in Morgantown, West Virginia.

JIM HARRIS/PBT



By [Paul J. Gough](#) – Reporter, Pittsburgh Business Times
Apr 17, 2026

Listen to this article 3 min

Story Highlights

- The Appalachian Regional Clean Hydrogen Hub will remain in the federal program after Trump administration review.
- ARCH2 was selected for as much as \$750 million in federal funding from a \$7 billion national initiative.
- The Ohio River Valley Institute criticized continued public spending on hydrogen hubs due to insufficient demand.

The Appalachian Regional Clean Hydrogen Hub, a multibillion-dollar project during the Biden administration, is moving ahead after [a yearlong review by the Trump administration](#).

ARCH2 was one of seven hydrogen hubs that were selected in a competitive bidding process for a total of \$7 billion as part of the Biden administration's attempt to scale up hydrogen production on a national basis. ARCH2 was to receive as much as \$750 million in federal funding, with the remainder of at least \$2 billion in funding from private companies.

But after the change in administrations, it wasn't clear what would happen to ARCH2 and other regional hydrogen hub projects. That included another one with Pennsylvania ties, the Mid-Atlantic Clean Hydrogen Hub. [They were listed as under review for months](#).

ARCH2 learned this week it would stay in the program.

"We were informed that ARCH2 has been retained and look forward to meeting with the DOE to begin moving forward," Amanda Ensinger, spokesperson for project developer Battelle, told the Business Times in an email Friday.

It wasn't immediately clear how much funding it would get or what changes may be made, and the ARCH2 headquarters office in Morgantown, West Virginia, declined comment on the details. The U.S. Department of Energy, which was in charge of the funding, didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

ARCH2 involved a number of big-name companies including [EQT Corp.](#), Hope Gas and Air Liquide.

Latitude Media [reported MACH 2 and other hubs based in Maryland, North Dakota and the Gulf Coast also will be retained.](#)

One critic of the hydrogen hubs, the Ohio River Valley Institute, said spending any more public money on the projects was a mistake.

"These developments all point to the core challenge facing ARCH2: The developers driving the hub need to overcome the serious insufficient demand for hydrogen and high costs in order to get a foothold in most of the sectors these projects were targeting," said Tom Torres, chief of staff of the Ohio River Valley Institute. "Our region's leaders made the wrong decision when they championed this proposal. Now, years later, they have the rare opportunity to correct their mistakes."