



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **Director Keogh Named 2018–2019 President of the Environmental Council of the States**

**NORTH LITTLE ROCK**—The Environmental Council of the States (ECOS), a nonpartisan association of state and territorial environmental agency leaders, announced today the election of Becky W. Keogh, Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), as the 2018–2019 ECOS President.

Keogh is a well-respected leader among her counterparts in other states, and is an active member and alumni member of ECOS since 1997. She has previously served on a number of ECOS committees, including Air, Compliance, Cross Media, Water, and E-Enterprise.

“I applaud Director Keogh on her election as President of ECOS,” said **Governor Asa Hutchinson**. “Her breadth of experience in both the public and private sectors makes her uniquely qualified for this new role. In addition, her leadership will provide Arkansas with yet another voice on the national stage, and I have no doubt she will represent our state and country well.”

As the 2018–2019 ECOS President, Keogh will continue to advocate as a leading voice for state environmental agencies. Keogh has been a long-time and vocal proponent of consistency from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). She has testified on behalf of states’ rights before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, as well as the House of Representatives Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, specifically noting the atmosphere of coercive federalism at the time between the states and EPA.

“Becky Keogh has an excellent reputation as a fierce advocate for both states’ rights and the protection of our natural resources,” stated **U.S. Senator John Boozman (R-AR)**. “Her election as President of ECOS is a testament to just how well-respected she is amongst her peers. The organization is in good hands with a leader from the Natural State at the helm.”

“It’s a mark of distinction for our very own Director Keogh to be named President of ECOS. I have every confidence that during her tenure she will do our state proud,” said **U.S. Senator Tom Cotton (R-AR)**.

### **About Director Keogh:**

Keogh has been engaged in a unique range of technical and managerial roles across government, private industry, and environmental consulting over the course of her career. In 2015, Governor Hutchinson appointed Keogh as Director of ADEQ. Prior to her current role, Keogh served as Vice President and Senior Consultant for an international environmental and engineering firm. From 1996–2006, Keogh served as Deputy Director of ADEQ and was subsequently appointed by Governor Mike Huckabee to serve on the Arkansas Geological Commission from 2006–2009.

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