



2019 YEARBOOK

ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL
OF THE STATES

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This directory is current as of March 2019

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ECOS

The Environmental Council of the States

ECOS is the national, nonprofit, nonpartisan association of state and territorial environmental agency leaders. A 501(c)(6) organization, ECOS relies on dues from its members as well as federal and private sources of funding.

Officers

President

Becky Keogh

Director, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality

Vice President

James Macy

Director, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality

Secretary –Treasurer

Patrick McDonnell

Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Past President

Todd Parfitt

Director, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality

Mission Statement

The purpose of ECOS is to improve the capability of state environmental agencies and their leaders to protect and improve human health and the environment of the United States of America.

Our belief is that state government agencies are the keys to delivering environmental protection afforded by both federal and state law. Further, ECOS provides leadership on environmental issues of national importance and plays a critical role in facilitating a quality relationship among and between federal and state agencies. To fulfill its mission, ECOS will:

- Articulate, advocate, preserve, and champion the role of the states in environmental management;
- Provide for the exchange of ideas, views, and experiences among states and with others;
- Foster cooperation and coordination in environmental management; and
- Articulate state positions to Congress, federal agencies, and the public on environmental issues.



Lance LeFleur, Director

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Lance LeFleur was selected to serve as the Director of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management on May 1, 2010. LeFleur has extensive private sector managerial experience leading two companies dedicated to environmental improvement. He was the founder, owner, and for more than 20 years the operator of a business that reprocessed and traded industrial plastics domestically and internationally. As a former business owner he understands the importance of regulations in protecting environmental resources and how the regulatory process impacts businesses. His private sector background has also afforded him many opportunities to successfully work with diverse stakeholder groups to resolve difficult issues. LeFleur holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from the Georgia Institute of Technology and an MBA in management/finance from Southern Methodist University. He completed the Advanced Management Program at the Harvard University Graduate School of Business.



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Jason Brune was appointed as the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation on December 3, 2018. Prior to his appointment, Brune was the Senior Director of Land and Resources at Cook Inlet Region, Inc. (CIRI), an Alaska Native Corporation. Brune oversaw and participated in the development and administration of CIRI's subsurface resources, including oil, gas, minerals, sand and gravel, and coal. Brune also worked for Anglo American as the company's public affairs and government relations manager. He is the former Executive Director for the Resource Development Council. He has served on the Alaska Sealife Center Board, Cook Inlet Beluga Whale Endangered Species Act Recovery Team, Tyonek Tribal Conservation District Board, and Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Public Advisory Committee. Brune has a bachelor's degree from Carleton College and a graduate degree in Environmental Science from Alaska Pacific University.



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Misael Cabrera was appointed as the Director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) by Governor Douglas Ducey in 2015, after joining the agency in 2011 as Deputy Director. As Director of ADEQ, Cabrera promotes regulatory efficiency and is committed to effective partnerships to benefit all Arizonans. Before joining ADEQ, Cabrera held a variety of technical and leadership roles at several environmental and engineering firms. A registered professional engineer, Cabrera has more than two decades of experience in the environmental field. Cabrera currently serves as Chair of the ECOS Innovation and Productivity Committee.



Michael Keyack, Deputy Director

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Mike Keyack began serving as Arizona Department of Environmental Quality's (ADEQ) Deputy Director under Director Misael Cabrera in April 2018 after leading ADEQ's Office of Continuous Improvement for more than two years, a role in which he championed the agency's transformation to a Lean Management System. His passion for mission outcomes was sparked at a young age, as he witnessed the entire community in his childhood home of Cape Canaveral, Florida, unite for a single cause — the race to the moon. Before joining ADEQ, Keyack was a Cross Functional Leader at Lockheed Martin, where he spent 30 years engaged in the design, development, and operation of complex systems and products for the U.S. Department of Defense. He also has the collaborative role of being the youngest of seven children, through which he has cultivated a genuine caring for the achievements of others. Keyack earned his MBA from the University of Colorado Denver and his Bachelor of Science from Arizona State University.



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Becky Keogh is the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ). Throughout her career, she has been engaged in a range of technical and managerial roles across government, private industry, and environmental consulting. Keogh previously held positions including Vice President and Senior Consultant for an international environmental and engineering firm, Deputy Director of ADEQ from 1996–2006, and member of the Arkansas Geological Commission from 2006–2009. Just prior to her appointment by Governor Hutchinson as ADEQ Director, she was employed in an environmental and regulatory management role for an international resources corporation. As an active alumni member of ECOS since 1997, she has participated in multiple ECOS committees and programs. Keogh has a degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Arkansas. She is married and has three children and four grandchildren. Keogh currently serves as ECOS President.



**Jared Blumenfeld,
Secretary for Environmental Protection**

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Jared Blumenfeld was appointed by Governor Newsom to Secretary for Environmental Protection of the California Environmental Protection Agency in January 2019. Blumenfeld has more than 25 years of environmental policy and management experience at the local, national, and international levels. From 2009 to 2016, he served under former President Obama as Regional Administrator of the U.S. EPA Pacific Southwest Region. From 2001 to 2009, he was Director of San Francisco’s Department of Environment, where he worked with then-Mayor Newsom to make San Francisco “the most sustainable city in the nation.” Blumenfeld also founded a private consulting firm to advise clean-tech companies on strategic planning and market development. He also led international campaigns for nongovernmental organizations, including the International Fund for Animal Welfare and the Natural Resource Defense Council. He also started and hosts a podcast on environmental topics, called Podship Earth. Blumenfeld graduated from the Cambridge College of Arts and Technology and holds law degrees from the University of London and the University of California, Berkeley.



Jill Hunsaker Ryan, Director

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Jill Hunsaker Ryan, MPH, is a public health professional with more than two decades of experience in the field. Most recently, she was a two-term Eagle County Commissioner, where she focused her efforts on affordable health care, environmental protection, climate action, emergency preparedness, and increasing mental health resources. She also served as President of the Colorado Communities for Climate Action and as Manager of the Eagle County Public Health agency. Ryan directed the Office of Health Disparities, now called the Office of Health Equity, and was a Governor's appointee to the state's Board of Health. Ryan holds a Bachelor's degree from University of Colorado Boulder and a Master's degree from the University of Northern Colorado.



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Katie Dykes was appointed Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) by Governor Ned Lamont in January 2019. Dykes most recently served as Chair of Connecticut's Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA), where she played an active role in helping to achieve the state's goal to bring cheaper, cleaner, and more reliable energy to the state's families and businesses. She previously served as Deputy Commissioner for Energy at DEEP from 2012 to 2016, and Chair of the Board of Directors of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, Inc. (RGGI) from 2014 to 2017. RGGI is a multi-state effort focused on reducing carbon emissions from electric generating facilities. Prior to joining DEEP, Dykes served as Deputy General Counsel for the White House Council on Environmental Quality and as a Legal Advisor to the General Counsel for the U.S. Department of Energy under President Obama. She is a graduate of Yale College and the Yale Law School.



Shawn Garvin, Secretary

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Shawn M. Garvin joined Governor John Carney's cabinet in March 2017 as Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, leading the agency tasked with protecting and managing the Delaware's natural resources, protecting public health, providing outdoor recreational opportunities, and educating Delawareans about the environment. Garvin's career in intergovernmental affairs spans more than 25 years at the federal, state, and local levels. In November 2009, he was appointed by President Barack Obama to serve as Administrator of Region 3 for the U.S. EPA, overseeing the agency's work in the Mid-Atlantic, which includes Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia, as well as the District of Columbia. Before he was named Regional Administrator, Garvin served as the Senior State and Congressional Liaison for EPA Region 3. Garvin is a Delaware native and a graduate of the University of Delaware.



Robert J. Zimmerman, Chief Operating Officer

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Robert Zimmerman has served as the Chief Operating Officer for the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control since 2007. His responsibilities include; guiding efforts to improve the delivery of environmental programs, policies, and funding; human resources management; financial services; information technology; quality management; and coordination/liaison with other federal and state agencies. Prior to this role, he held various engineering and management positions within the department. He is a Past President of the Association of State and Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators, served as Chair of the State Workgroup for ECOS that created the Blueprint for the National Environmental Exchange Network, and has led several other national initiatives on issues including expanding the use of Lean techniques in state and federal administrative operations on behalf of states. Zimmerman is a graduate of University of Delaware. He currently serves as Chair for ECOS' Digital Strategies Forum and serves on the E-Enterprise for the Environment and Exchange Network Management Board.



Tommy Wells, Director

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Tommy Wells is the Director of the District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment. Most recently, Wells served as Ward 6 Councilmember, a position he held since 2006. During his tenure on the DC Council, Wells won support throughout Washington for his fundamental goal: creating a livable and walkable city for all. Wells started his Washington career in 1983 as a social worker in the DC foster care system, where he spurred and led a successful class action lawsuit, *LaShawn v. Barry*, to address the city's failure to protect children in its care. In 1991, he took the helm of the DC Consortium for Child Welfare, and later established a groundbreaking program to match foster families with children affected by HIV/AIDS and also led the drive to create the DC Family Court. Wells has championed the next generation of public transit—including streetcar lines, expansion of the DC Circulator, and improvements in overall bus service. In addition, he crafted a landmark bill to charge a nominal fee on disposable bags. Wells graduated from the Columbus School of Law at Catholic University in 1991 and earned a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Minnesota in 1983.



Noah Valenstein, Secretary

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Noah Valenstein was appointed Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection by Governor Rick Scott in May 2017. He returned to DEP with nearly 15 years of public service experience with governmental agencies and a passion for natural resource protection. Noah most recently served as Executive Director for the Suwannee River Water Management District. His previous experience includes working on environmental, agricultural, and energy issues in the Executive Office of the Governor and Florida House of Representatives, as well as with several of Florida's leading environmental non-profit groups. Valenstein was born in Gainesville, Florida and graduated with honors from the University of Florida's School of Natural Resources and Environment. He also holds a JD from Florida State University. He resides in Tallahassee with his wife, Jennifer, and daughter, Ava.



Drew Bartlett, Deputy Secretary

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Andrew (Drew) Bartlett is the Deputy Secretary for Ecosystem Restoration for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. In this position, he manages the Office of Water Policy, the Office Ecosystem Projects, the Florida Coastal Office, the Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration, and the Division of Water Resource Assistance. Bartlett previously served as Director of the Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration where he was responsible for setting water quality standards, monitoring and assessing surface water quality, establishing TMDLs and restoration goals, and developing Basin Management Action Plans (the blueprints for restoration). Bartlett holds an industrial engineering degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology and received his MBA from Georgia State University. He currently serves as the Vice Chair of the ECOS Infrastructure Workgroup.



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



Richard Dunn, Director

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Dunn was appointed Director of the Environmental Protection Division (EPD) of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources in June 2016. He previously served as the Deputy Director of the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (OPB) as well as the Director of OPB's Health and Human Services Division where he worked closely on the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. Prior to joining OPB, he worked for the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities where he served as the Deputy Chief of Staff. He has also served as the Acting Director of the Governor's Office for Children and Families and Chairman of the Georgia Occupational Regulation Review Council. Prior to his career in public service, Dunn taught courses on politics and public policy at Dickinson College and College of Charleston. Dunn earned a Bachelor's degree from Emory University and a Master's degree from the University of Georgia. He and his wife, Susan, have one son. They reside in Atlanta.



Lauren Curry, Deputy Director

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Lauren Curry joined the Georgia Environmental Protection Division in June 2016 after serving as Chief of Staff for the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency for two years, overseeing day-to-day agency operations and two Presidentially-declared natural disasters. Previously, Curry served as Georgia Department of Natural Resources Director of Public and Governmental Affairs for five years. Curry's former positions include Special Projects Director and Marketing Manager at the Georgia Department of Economic Development, Press Aide to Governor Sonny Perdue, and Communications and Management Specialist at the U.S. Department of Transportation in Boston. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Government and Business Economics from Wofford College and a Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Georgia. Curry resides in Marietta with her husband and two children.



HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



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Keith Kawaoka was appointed Deputy Director for Environmental Health by Governor David Ige in 2015. Having been at the Hawaii Department of Health for more than 15 years, Kawaoka brings over 35 years of experience in environmental protection from the public and private sector. Most recently, he was the Program Manager of the department's Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response Office. At the Department of Health, he has had direct involvement in a wide range of environmental projects from federal facility and petroleum remediation to emergency response and management for natural disasters and industrial incidents. Kawaoka holds a Master's degree in Public and Environmental Health and a Doctorate in Environmental Science and Engineering from University of California, Los Angeles. He currently serves as the ECOS Islands Regional Representative.



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John Tippets is the Director of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. He was appointed to this position by Governor C.L. “Butch” Otter in July 2015 during his third term in the Idaho Senate. His career has also included serving six terms in the Idaho House of Representatives and working for Agrium as a Public Affairs Manager. He received his Master’s degree in Human Resources Management from Utah State University.



Jess Byrne, Deputy Director

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Jess Byrne is Deputy Director for the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. He coordinates a variety of activities in support of the state’s efforts to preserve the quality of Idaho’s air, land, and water, and is directly responsible for overseeing many of DEQ’s support services in the areas of Human Resources, Public Information, Public Outreach, Communications, and Intergovernmental Affairs. Byrne is a graduate of Boise State University (BSU) where he finished his Bachelor of Science in Environmental Health in 1999. He earned his Master of Public Administration at BSU in 2004. An Idaho native, originally from Eastern Idaho, Byrne and his family currently reside in Boise.



John Kim, Director

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John J. Kim was appointed Director of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) on January 22, 2019. Kim has served in many senior roles during his distinguished 25 years at the agency under five Governors of both parties. He most recently served as Chief Legal Counsel. He has also previously served as Director, Interim Director, Ethics Officer, Deputy General Counsel, Assistant Counsel/Special Assistant Attorney General, as well as Project Manager for an IEPA-China pollution prevention project. In 2008 and 2009, he left IEPA for just over a year to serve as Acting General Counsel of the Illinois Department of Agriculture. Prior to working at IEPA, Kim was an Assistant Attorney General of Illinois and was the General Counsel to the Midwest Environmental Enforcement Association. He received his JD from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale and his Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



Bruno Pigott, Commissioner

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Bruno Pigott has worked at the Indiana Department of Environmental Management since 2000 and in 2017 was appointed as Commissioner by Governor Holcomb. From April 2005 to August 2015, Pigott worked as the Assistant Commissioner in the Office of Water Quality. Prior to 2005, Pigott served in a number of different positions in the Office of Water Quality, including Chief of the Permits Branch, the Compliance Branch, and the State Revolving Fund Section. He received his Master's degree from Indiana University's School of Public and Environmental Affairs and his Bachelor's degree from Michigan State University.



Ed Tormey, Acting Administrator

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Ed Tormey is Acting Division Administrator for Iowa Department of Natural Resource's Environmental Services Division. From 2004 to 2018, Tormey served as the agency's General Counsel. Prior to that time, Ed practiced environmental law in Ohio, both in the public and private sector. From 2001 to 2004, he served as Legal Services Bureau Chief for the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. Tormey is a graduate of the University of Iowa School of Law and is a member of the American College of Environmental Lawyers.



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Leo G. Henning was appointed as the Director of the Division of Environment for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) in February 2018. In that capacity, he directs all environmental program activities and oversees a staff of approximately 450 employees. Henning has worked for KDHE for 25 years, serving as the Director of the Bureau of Environmental Field Services for 6 years, where he directed all inspection and compliance work in the department's 6 regional offices, and served as the Director for the KDHE Laboratories for 3 years. Henning received a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Geology from Wichita State University and is a licensed professional geologist. A native of Wichita, KS., he is married with 2 children and 3 grandchildren.



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Tony Hatton is the Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection. He has been an employee of the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet (EEC) since 1999. Prior to coming to the EEC he worked as a consulting geologist for 11 years on projects for the Department of Defense, Department of Energy, and numerous large hazardous waste and Superfund projects. In 1999, Hatton worked as a Staff Geologist in the Division of Waste Management’s hazardous waste program. Over the course of his career, Hatton has served as the Assistant Director and then the Director of the Division of Waste Management beginning in 2008, and in 2016 he began serving as the Deputy Commissioner of the Department for Environmental Protection. Hatton holds a Master of Science in Geology from Eastern Kentucky University and is a registered professional geologist. He is married to Debbie and has one son, Caleb.



Chuck Carr Brown, Ph.D., Secretary

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Dr. Chuck Carr Brown became Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on January 11, 2016. Previously, Brown was President and CEO of Brown and Associates, LLC, a firm specializing in the delivery of environmental services, governmental relations, and issue management. He also was Vice President of Metro Service Group, a New Orleans-based firm rooted in waste collection, vertical and horizontal construction, and emergency response. Brown has re-emphasized DEQ’s core values, re-established the Office of Environmental Assessment, and taken a hands-on approach to air quality goals. Brown has a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from the University of Southern Mississippi and a Master of Public Administration and a Doctorate of Philosophy in Public Policy/Environmental Policy from Southern University A&M College. He currently serves as Chair of the ECOS Waste Committee.



Jerry Reid, Commissioner

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Governor Mills appointed Jerry Reid to be Commissioner of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection in January 2019. Reid had served in the Maine Attorney General's Office for 24 years, including as Chief of the Office's Natural Resources Division for the preceding 12 years. The focus of his practice in the Attorney General's Office was enforcement and appellate work under the Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, and Maine's hazardous waste and land use statutes. He also worked extensively on issues arising under the Maine Indian Land Claims Settlement Act. In his free time, Reid enjoys fishing, camping, and exploring in Maine's North Woods. He is a lifetime member of the Maine Archaeological Society. Reid holds a Bachelor of Arts in Classics from Wesleyan University, and is a cum laude graduate of the University of Maine School of Law.



Ben Grumbles, Secretary

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Ben Grumbles was appointed by Governor Larry Hogan and confirmed by the State Senate as Secretary of the Environment in 2015. His duties also include Chairing the Governor's Chesapeake Bay Cabinet and the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative and being a member of the Ozone Transport Commission and the Susquehanna River Basin Commission. Grumbles has served as President of the U.S. Water Alliance, Director of Arizona's Department of Environmental Quality, U.S. EPA Assistant Administrator for Water, and Senior Staffer and Counsel for the Transportation and Infrastructure and Science Committees in the U.S Congress. He is a graduate of the University of Maine School of Law. Grumbles serves as Chair of the ECOS Air Committee and is the ECOS Region 3 Representative.

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Martin Suuberg was appointed on January 8, 2015 as the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) by Governor Charles D. Baker and his Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Matthew A. Beaton. Prior to his appointment, Suuberg served as Undersecretary for Environmental Affairs in the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. At MassDEP, he served as Deputy Commissioner for Policy and Planning. He took over this position after 9½ years as the Regional Director for the Central Regional Office in Worcester, MA. Over his long career, Suuberg served as General Counsel to MassDEP and to the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, as well as to the former Department of Environmental Management, where he also served as Deputy Commissioner. Before moving to Massachusetts, he was an Associate Solicitor and then Deputy Solicitor at the U.S. Department of the Interior in Washington, DC. Suuberg currently serves as Chair of the ECOS Water Committee.

**Liesl Eichler Clark, Director**P.O. Box 30473
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Liesl Eichler Clark was appointed Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality by Governor Whitmer in January 2019. Prior to, she was Co-Founder and Partner of 5 Lakes Energy, a policy consulting firm seeking to advance the transition to a clean energy economy. She served as President of the Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council and as Deputy Director for Energy Programs at the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor, & Economic Growth. Since founding the Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council, Clark has been instrumental in building relationships between the clean energy business community and state and federal policymakers. She held a series of roles involving environmental policy in state government, from Policy Advisor in Governor Granholm's office to Legislative Liaison for the Michigan Department of Agriculture. Clark holds a Master's degree from Michigan State University (MSU) and a Bachelor of Arts from MSU's James Madison College. She has completed the Great Lakes Leadership Academy and serves on the board of Advancing Women in Energy.



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Aaron Keatley has over 25 years of state government experience and is responsible for the management of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's environmental programs. He returned to Michigan in June 2018 after a 25-year career at the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection. In Kentucky, he was appointed to multiple leadership positions and finished his public service in Kentucky as the Commonwealth's environmental Commissioner. He lives with his wife, Andrea, in their home along the Grand River. When he is not at work, he enjoys time outdoors, including fly fishing and birding. Keatley holds a Bachelor of Science in Wildlife and Fisheries Management from Michigan State University. He also earned a Master of Public Administration from the University of Kentucky. Keatley currently serves as Vice Chair of ECOS Compliance Committee.



MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY



Laura Bishop, Commissioner

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Laura Bishop was appointed Commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency by Governor Tim Walz. A strategic leader who easily navigates and communicates complex issues to internal and external audiences, Bishop has held senior roles in both the private and public sector. Most recently, Bishop was Chief Sustainability and Corporate Responsibility Officer for Best Buy Co., Inc. Prior to Best Buy, Bishop spent much of her career in the public sector where she served in roles at the State of Minnesota, the White House, the U.S. Department of Education, and the U.S. Department of State at the U.S. Embassy in Switzerland. Bishop's active community involvement is highlighted by her dedication to the boards and councils on which she currently serves, including her work as the Chair of the Dean's Advisory Committee at the Hubert Humphrey School for Public Affairs. Bishop holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin—Madison and a Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Michigan.



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Gary C. Rikard was appointed Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) Executive Director by Governor Phil Bryant in 2014. In addition to his duties as Executive Director, Rikard serves as Mississippi's Trustee for the Natural Resource Damage Assessment under the Oil Pollution Act and is tasked with leading Mississippi's recovery from the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. Rikard, previously a partner with Butler Snow, LLP, has practiced environmental law since 1996, including serving as Senior Attorney at MDEQ from 1996-1998. Prior to earning his law degree, he worked as an Environmental Engineer at MDEQ, specializing in permitting and water quality compliance issues. He served more than 22 years in the Mississippi National Guard, retiring with the rank of Major. Rikard earned a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Christian Brothers University, completed graduate studies in Environmental Engineering at the University of Mississippi, and holds a JD from the University of Mississippi School of Law.



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Carol Comer was appointed Director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources in January 2017. Comer leads the department's efforts to protect air, land and water; preserve natural and historic places; and provide recreational and learning opportunities for everyone. Comer has extensive experience with environmental issues in government and business and understands that environmental protection and economic growth are not mutually exclusive. Comer previously served as Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management under former Governor and Vice President Mike Pence. Comer received her undergraduate degree from Indiana University School of Business and a joint Master's and Law degree from Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs and Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law, where she was the law school's first Environmental Law Fellow. Comer currently serves as Chair of the ECOS Compliance Committee.



Shaun McGrath, Director

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Shaun McGrath was appointed Director of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality by Governor Bullock in November 2018. McGrath most recently served as Regional Administrator of the U.S. EPA for Region 8 in Denver. He was also the Deputy Director for the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, and spent 14 years as a Program Director working on behalf of the bipartisan Western Governors' Association. His career started in Kansas as a Governor's Fellow under Republican Governor Mike Hayden, and led to an appointment as Trade Manager for the Kansas Department of Commerce's European Office in Stuttgart, Germany. He served as Mayor of Boulder, Colorado, from 2007-2009, and was elected twice to the Boulder City Council. McGrath earned a Master's degree from the University of Kansas, and a Bachelor's degree from Kansas State University.



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Jim Macy was selected by Governor Ricketts as Director of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality in 2015. At NDEQ, Macy has implemented an online application process for construction storm-water permits and 9 categories of online air construction permits, a rapid response team to work on new permit applications with Department of Economic Development, and many other projects that focus on compliance assistance and quality environmental reviews in a timely manner. He also has implemented a short-form compliance determination notice that is reviewed at the conclusion of each inspection and has introduced Permit Assistance Visits for new or modified facilities that have new personnel. These actions are designed to be proactive and to "Make it Easy to be in Compliance." Since his appointment, Macy has been engaging Nebraska leadership in all sectors to open a dialogue with the department. Macy holds a Bachelor of Science and a Master's degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia. He currently serves as ECOS Vice President.



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Bradley Crowell was appointed Director of the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources by Governor Brian Sandoval in December 2016. As Director, Crowell oversees ten state agencies and programs including the Divisions of Environmental Protection, Water Resources, and Division of Forestry. A native of Carson City, Nevada, Crowell has nearly 20 years of experience in energy, environment, and natural resource policy at the state and federal levels. His professional experience includes working for multiple Members of Congress on Capitol Hill, including former Nevada Governor and U.S. Senator Richard Bryan; and for the Natural Resources Defense Council in Washington, DC. Most recently, Crowell held a Senate-confirmed role at the U.S. Department of Energy, serving as Assistant Secretary for Congressional, Intergovernmental, and External Affairs under Secretaries Steven Chu and Ernest Moniz.



Greg Lovato, Administrator

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Greg Lovato was appointed Administrator of the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) in February 2017. After 14 years with the U.S. EPA Region 9, where he worked in the RCRA waste and cleanup programs including 6 years at the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, he was hired as the NDEP Remediation Branch Supervisor in 2006. He has also served as the Deputy Administrator, overseeing the Division's Corrective Actions, Industrial Site Cleanup, Mining, Waste, and Federal Facilities Programs, and previously as the Chief of Environmental Cleanup Programs. He serves on the Nevada Petroleum Fund Board to Review Claims and represents Nevada on the Rocky Mountain Low-Level Radioactive Waste Board. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Stanford University and a Bachelor of Arts in Management-Engineering from Claremont McKenna College. He is licensed as a professional civil engineer in Nevada and California. Lovato currently serves as the State Chair of the ECOS Federal Facilities Forum.



Bob Scott, Commissioner

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Robert (Bob) Scott was sworn in as Commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) on June 29, 2017. Scott previously worked for NHDES for 17 years in the Air Resources Division (ARD), and as Director of ARD from 2003 to 2012. Between 2012 and 2017, Scott served as Commissioner of the NH Public Utilities Commission. In addition to his duties as NHDES Commissioner, Scott serves as cybersecurity advisor for critical infrastructure to NH Governor Chris Sununu. He also currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative and as Vice Chair of the NH Site Evaluation Committee. Since his return to NHDES, Scott has focused the department on providing exceptional customer service, while also addressing the challenges associated with emerging drinking water contaminants and infrastructure needs. Scott has a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Lehigh University.



Clark Freise, Assistant Commissioner

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Clark Freise has served as the Assistant Commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services since October 2015. Freise previously held senior leadership positions with Elbit Systems of America (Kollsman) and BAE Systems in New Hampshire. Prior to entering the defense industry, Freise served in the U.S. Navy, achieving the rank of Lieutenant Commander. Following active duty, he continued his government service as a Program Manager and scientist at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, DC. Clark holds a Master of Science in Physical Oceanography from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology/Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and a Bachelor of Science in Oceanography from the U.S. Naval Academy. He is also a national and international security management course graduate of the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.



Catherine McCabe, Commissioner

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Catherine R. McCabe, a long-time federal environmental leader, assumed her duties as Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in January 2018. McCabe came to DEP after a distinguished career in government service, environmental law, and program management. Most recently, she served as U.S. EPA Region 2 Deputy Administrator in New York City. Previously, she was a judge on EPA’s Environmental Appeals Board, and the Deputy Assistant Administrator of EPA’s Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. McCabe joined EPA after 22 years with the U.S. Department of Justice, where she served in various positions as a manager and trial attorney in the Environment and Natural Resources Division. McCabe holds a law degree from Columbia Law School, as well as a Bachelor’s degree in Environmental Science from Barnard College. She hails from Albany, NY and is the mother of three adult children.



James Kenney, Cabinet Secretary

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James Kenney is Cabinet Secretary of the New Mexico Environment Department. He has spent more than 21 years across two stints at the U.S. EPA, most recently as Senior Policy Advisor for Oil and Gas. In that role, he has worked with senior agency leadership and designed strategies to support environmentally responsible development of oil and natural gas resources while working with states, tribes, federal agencies, and industries on regulatory and policy matters. He also served as a senior environmental engineer at EPA, leading both civil and criminal investigations related to various EPA statutes and regulations as well as developing strategic compliance and enforcement approaches on oil and natural gas exploration. He served as an EPA Ozone Program Manager and Senior Environmental Engineer at an environmental engineering firm in Denver, as well as a consultant at the U.S. Department of Justice. Kenney holds both Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Environmental Engineering from Temple University. Kenney currently serves as Co-Chair of the ECOS Shale Gas Caucus.



Basil Seggos, Commissioner

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Basil Seggos is the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Previously, Seggos served as both Deputy Secretary for the Environment and Assistant Secretary for the Environment to Governor Cuomo, advising the Governor on environmental policy and overseeing the operations of the state's environmental agencies, including the DEC, Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation, Environmental Facilities Corporation, and the Adirondack Park Agency. Prior to working in the Governor's office, Seggos served as Vice President of Business Development at the clean-tech private equity company Hugo Neu Corporation, Chief Investigator and Attorney at Riverkeeper, Associate at the Natural Resources Defense Council, and Legal Clerk at the White House. Seggos graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from Trinity College in 1996, and earned his JD from Pace University in 2001, where he received the Environmental Law award and Alumni Achievement award. He is a Captain in the U.S. Army Reserve. Seggos currently serves as the ECOS Region 2 Representative.



Michael S. Regan, Secretary

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Michael S. Regan was named Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality by Governor Roy Cooper on January 3, 2017. Regan joined the Cooper Administration after more than 18 years of professional experience focused on overcoming complex challenges through environmental advocacy and regulation. Most recently, he served as the Associate Vice President of U.S. Climate and Energy and Southeast Regional Director of the Environmental Defense Fund. A native of Goldsboro, NC, Regan has a Bachelor's degree in Earth and Environmental Science from NC Agricultural and Technical State University and a Master's degree in Public Administration from George Washington University.



Sheila Holman, Assistant Secretary for the Environment

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Sheila Holman was appointed the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality's Assistant Secretary for the Environment in February 2017. Holman is a dedicated and talented career public servant, having worked for the U.S. EPA as an Environmental Engineer and having served most recently as the director for the NC Division of Air Quality since 2010. Holman earned her Bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from North Carolina State University. As the agency's Assistant Secretary, Holman oversees development of major policy initiatives for programs with responsibilities such as permitting of discharges to surface waters; issuance of air emissions permits; implementation of grant programs for wastewater and permitting of coastal development; regulation of animal operations; and management of waste programs including brownfields, Superfund, hazardous waste, and solid waste.



NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



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L. David Glatt joined the North Dakota Department of Health in 1983 as an Environmental Engineer. In 1989, he became Manager of the Ground Water Protection Program and was named Assistant Director for the Division of Water Quality shortly thereafter. In May 2000, Glatt was named Director of the Division of Waste Management, and in 2002, he was named Section Chief of the Environmental Health Section. He is a registered professional engineer, having received a Bachelor of Science in Biology with a Master of Science in Environmental Engineering from North Dakota State University, Fargo. Glatt currently serves as a Co-Chair of the ECOS Shale Gas Caucus.



Laurie Stevenson, Director

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Laurie A. Stevenson was appointed Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency in January 2019 by Governor DeWine. She most recently served as Deputy Director for Business Relations where she served as a primary contact for regulated entities to help coordinate permitting activities within the agency. She also served as chief of Ohio EPA's Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance. A public servant of 29 years, she previously served as the Industrial Liaison in the Director's Office and managed Ohio EPA's Small Business Assistance Office. She held former positions in Ohio EPA's Division of Hazardous Waste Management, starting as a Hazardous Waste Field Inspector. Stevenson earned a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Health from Bowling Green State University and a Master's degree in Public Health from Ohio State University.



Kenneth Wagner, Secretary

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Kenneth Wagner was appointed Secretary of Oklahoma Energy and Environment by Governor Stitt in 2019. Wagner is responsible for over 30 state agencies, boards, compacts, and commissions as well as advancing policies that encourage economic growth, promote sensible regulation that fosters responsible energy production, protect natural resources, and ensure clean air, land, and water for all Oklahomans. Previously, Wagner served as the Senior Advisor to the Administrator for Regional and State Affairs within U.S. EPA's Office of the Administrator where he also served as Director of the Office of Regional Operations. He also was the main point of contact in the Administrator's Office with all 50 states' top environmental regulators and tribal governments. Wagner also served as Chair on the Gulf Coast Economic Restoration Council. Before joining the agency, he practiced law and held private business interests for nearly 25 years. He received his degrees from the University of Oklahoma and the University of Tulsa College of Law.



Scott Thompson, Executive Director

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Scott Thompson serves as the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Prior to becoming Executive Director, Thompson led DEQ's Land Protection Division, where he managed a diverse set of programs, including Superfund, Brownfields, Voluntary Cleanup, and Radiation Management. Thompson currently serves as ECOS Waste Committee Vice Chair and ECOS Region 6 Representative.



Richard Whitman, Director

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Richard Whitman has been Director of Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) since February 2017. Prior to that and beginning in October of 2016, he was DEQ's Acting Director. Whitman worked in the Governor's Natural Resources Office as Policy Director from 2011 to 2016, where he coordinated the work of the state's environmental protection and natural resources agencies. From 2008 to 2011, Whitman served as the Director of Oregon's Department of Land Conservation and Development. Previously Whitman was head of the Natural Resources Section under State Attorney General Hardy Meyers. Whitman currently serves as ECOS Region 10 Representative.

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Patrick McDonnell is Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Previously, he served as Director of Policy for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). In addition, McDonnell ran the State Energy Office and was charged with coordination of renewable energy and energy efficiency issues. He also served several years as Executive Policy Manager for former Commissioner Pamela A. Witmer of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, focusing on electric, natural gas, and water issues as well as cybersecurity and the impact of environmental regulation on energy markets. McDonnell began his career at DEP working in the State Energy Office on energy efficiency, renewable energy, and green building projects. Throughout his career, McDonnell has worked to achieve success in the nexus between energy and environmental issues. A native of Philadelphia, McDonnell received his Master's degree in Political Science from Lehigh University and his Bachelor's degree in Politics from DeSales University. McDonnell currently serves as ECOS Secretary-Treasurer and Vice Chair of the ECOS Innovation and Productivity Committee.

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Janet Coit, Director

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Janet Coit has been Director of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) since 2011. Coit chairs the Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council that leads RI's cross-cutting work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve resiliency. She worked successfully with the Governor and stakeholders to approve multiple green bonds to invest in conservation, recreation, resiliency, and environmental protection. Before RIDEM, Coit worked at The Nature Conservancy where she was Director of the Rhode Island Chapter. Prior to, she served on the staffs of the late Senator John H. Chafee, Senator Lincoln Chafee, and the US Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works. She is a graduate of Dartmouth College and holds a JD from Stanford Law School, where she was President of the Environmental Law Society. Coit is a member of the American College of Environmental Lawyers.



Myra Reece, Director of Environmental Affairs

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Myra Reece serves as the Director of Environmental Affairs for the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) Office of Environmental Quality Control, and Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management. Reece previously served as Chief of the agency's Bureau of Air Quality. Prior to that, Reece served as Director of DHEC's Environmental Quality Control District in Aiken. Reece received a Bachelor's degree in Microbiology from Clemson University and a Master's degree in Public Health with an emphasis on hazardous materials management from the University of South Carolina. She is also a graduate of the Management Academy for Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a graduate of the Southern Center of Excellence in Environmental Health at Emory University, and has obtained professional certification as a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager. Reece serves on the U.S. EPA's Clean Air Act Advisory Committee, and is both Chair of the ECOS Planning Committee and ECOS Region 4 Representative.



David Salyers, Commissioner

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David Salyers became Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation in January 2019 after serving as Executive Director of the West Tennessee River Basin Authority since 1997. Salyers led the West Tennessee River Basin Authority as an agency that sets the standard for water resource management in West Tennessee. He introduced stream management techniques that led to improved efficiency and preservation of natural resources. He also received the 2016 Land Conservationist of the Year Award from the Tennessee Wildlife Federation for his wetlands restoration work and effective promotion of soil conservation practices. For 11 years, Salyers worked in the private sector in the as an engineer and manager before taking the reins of the Basin Authority. He maintains registrations as a professional engineer and geologist, as well as a certified hydrologic professional. He received a Bachelor's degree from Murray State University and a Bachelor's degree and Master's degree from Missouri University of Science and Technology. Salyers and his wife, Robin, have been married for 36 years. They have two daughters and three grandchildren.



Gregory Young, Deputy Commissioner

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Greg Young became Deputy Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) Bureau of Environment in February 2019, bringing 18 years of experience in practicing environmental law in Tennessee. His practice included environmental permitting, rulemaking, compliance, and enforcement cases. He has a range of expertise in matters involving water quality, air permitting, solid and hazardous waste, utility regulatory programs, and more. He has also worked on conservation projects involving land donations, conservation easements, greenhouse gas credits, and stream and wetland mitigation. Young has served as Co-Chair of the working group for Institutional and Legal Framework for TN H₂O, Tennessee's statewide initiative for securing the future of water resources. He was appointed in 2016 to serve on TDEC's Water Reuse Advisory Committee. He has also represented agencies of the state of Tennessee on environmental matters. Young received his law degree from Tulane University in 2001 after receiving a Bachelor's degree from Mississippi College in 1998. He lives in Franklin with his wife, Lauren, and two children.



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



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Jon Niermann of Austin was appointed to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality by Governor Greg Abbott in October 2015. Niermann also serves as Governor Abbott's appointee on the Western States Water Council and is responsible for overseeing the administration of Texas's share of mitigation funds resulting from Volkswagen's fraud to evade federal vehicle emission standards. Prior to this, Niermann worked closely with the agency in roles at the Texas Attorney General's Office, including Assistant Attorney General and Chief of the Environmental Protection Division. In these roles, Niermann led the Texas delegation to negotiations that resolved the state's claims relating to the Deepwater Horizon disaster. He was also the lead attorney on several petitions for review of U.S. EPA rulemaking actions under the federal Clean Air Act. Before entering public service, Niermann was an environmental attorney in private practice. He began his regulatory career as the safety and environmental manager for a heavy-equipment manufacturer. Niermann earned a Bachelor's degree in History from the University of California, Santa Barbara and an MBA and JD from the University of Oregon.



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Toby Baker was appointed Executive Director of the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality in August 2016. Previously, he served as Commissioner for TCEQ for 6 years. Baker also serves as Governor Abbott's appointee to the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council, represents Texas as the Chair on the Gulf of Mexico Alliance Management Team, and serves on the Coastal Land Advisory Board. He was a policy and budget advisor on various environmental issues for the Governor's Office, a past natural resource policy advisor to Senator Estes, and the former Director and Clerk of the Texas Senate Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Affairs, and Coastal Resources. Baker received a Bachelor's from Texas A&M University and a Master of Public Service and Administration from the Texas A&M George Bush School of Government and Public Service. He is also a graduate of the National Outdoor Leadership School and the Governor's Executive Development Program at the University of Texas LBJ School of Public Affairs.



UTAH DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



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Alan Matheson, Jr. is the Executive Director of the Utah Department of Environmental Quality and Senior Environmental Adviser to Governor Gary R. Herbert. He also worked in the Herbert Administration as State Planning Coordinator. Prior to that, Matheson served as the Executive Director of Envision Utah where he facilitated public processes to help communities address development and natural resource challenges in a manner consistent with science, economic realities, and public values. Matheson also served as the founding Director of the Utah Water Project; shareholder in a Phoenix law firm, where he specialized in natural resource and water law; and as Senior Attorney and Environmental Policy Adviser for Arizona's largest electric utility. Earlier, he worked as a law clerk for a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals. Matheson earned a Bachelor's degree in International Relations from Stanford University and a JD from University of California, Los Angeles School of Law, where he was an editor of the UCLA Law Review. Matheson currently serves as the Vice Chair of the ECOS Air Committee and as ECOS Region 8 Representative.



Brad Johnson, Deputy Director

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Brad Johnson was appointed Deputy Director for the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (UDEQ) in November 2009. He began his 34-year career with UDEQ in the Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste in the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act program before moving to the Division of Environmental Response and Remediation, where he served as Director from 2003 to 2009. In that capacity, he was responsible for the administration and coordination of Emergency Response and Homeland Security in UDEQ, the Underground Storage Tank Program, the State Voluntary Cleanup Program, Superfund, Federal Facilities, and Community Right to Know.



Scott Baird, Deputy Director

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Scott Baird was appointed Deputy Director for the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (UDEQ) in November of 2016. Baird is responsible for Policy, Planning, and Operational Improvement for the Department and works with legislators, stakeholders, and employees in finding ways to improve how the department carries out its mission. Prior to his appointment as Deputy Director, Baird served as the Director of Legislative and Government Affairs for UDEQ. Before joining UDEQ, he served in the Governor's Offices in Utah and Washington as well as with Deloitte Consulting in DC, where he worked with state and federal agencies on achieving operational improvements. Baird earned his Bachelor's degree from Brigham Young University and his Master's in Public Administration and JD degree from Syracuse University.



Julie Moore, Secretary

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Julie Moore is the Secretary of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, the state agency with primary responsibility for protecting and sustaining Vermont's environment, natural resources, wildlife, and forests, and for maintaining Vermont's beloved state parks. Moore was named to that position by Governor Phil Scott in January 2017. Before her appointment, Moore worked as the Water Resources Group Leader at Stone Environmental, a consulting firm headquartered in Montpelier, Vermont. Moore earned a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, cum laude, from the University at Buffalo and an Master of Science in Environmental Science and Policy from the Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering at the Johns Hopkins University. She is a registered professional engineer in Vermont and New Hampshire.



Peter Walke, Deputy Secretary

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Peter Walke is the Deputy Secretary of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. He was appointed to the position in January 2017 by Secretary Julie Moore, leaving his post as Chief of Staff for neighboring New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Walke attended Williams College in Massachusetts where he received a Bachelor of Arts, cum laude, and later earned a Masters of Arts in Applied Geography from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. After Williams, Walke joined the Navy, serving for nine years as an intelligence officer. After resigning his commission, Walke was selected to join a leadership development fellowship serving the Governor of the State of New York. He quickly became one of the Governor's primary environmental advisors, and was promptly named Chief of Staff of the New York Department of Environmental Conservation. Walke is Co-Chair of ECOS' PFAS Caucus.



Emily Boedecker, Commissioner

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Emily Boedecker began her tenure as Commissioner of the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VT DEC) on March 6, 2017. Prior to joining VT DEC, Boedecker was Executive Director of Local Motion. During her tenure she set a new strategic direction for the organization, orchestrating its transformation from a regional recreational services provider into a statewide advocate for biking, walking, and sustainable transportation. In the prior decade, taking on a variety of roles in marketing, fundraising, and leadership, she helped to chart a new path for the Vermont chapter of The Nature Conservancy, embracing the evolution of the organization from its traditional land protection roots into a conservation powerhouse addressing regional landscape-scale conservation threats, and developing programs to address landscape fragmentation, aquatic connectivity, and regional invasive species management. Boedecker graduated with a joint degree in Marketing and Engineering from the University of Huddersfield in northern England.



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



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David K. Paylor was appointed Director of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) by Governor Terry McAuliffe and previously was appointed by Bob McDonnell. He originally was appointed Director by Governor Timothy Kaine in 2006. Paylor's career began in 1973 with the State Water Control Board and continued with DEQ. He began as a Field Biologist and held a variety of positions after that as an Aquatic Ecologist, Water Resources Manager, Director of Petroleum Programs, and Director of Operations. He graduated from Duke University with a Bachelor's degree in Zoology and received his Master's degree from Oregon State University in Fisheries Science. He and his wife, Lesa, have two children, Kelsey and Grant. His hobbies include camping, canoeing, and woodworking. Paylor currently serves as President of ERIS.



Maia Bellon, Director

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Maia D. Bellon has served as Director of the Washington Department of Ecology since February 2013. She quickly became known for forging creative partnerships and innovative solutions for some of the most controversial environmental challenges the state faces. Before joining Ecology as a Water Resources Manager and eventually as Director, Bellon served 15 years as an Assistant Attorney General with the Ecology Division of the Washington State Attorney General's Office. She also was the Special Assistant to the President for Civil Rights and Legal Affairs at The Evergreen State College. From 2005 to 2010, Bellon served on the Executive Committee of the Environmental and Land Use Law Section of the Washington State Bar Association. She is a graduate of The Evergreen State College and has a JD from Arizona State University. Bellon currently serves as Chair of the ECOS Cross-Media Committee.



Austin Caperton, Cabinet Secretary

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Assistant: Gary Burdette; gary.c.burdette@wv.gov

Austin Caperton was appointed by Governor Jim Justice as Cabinet Secretary for the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection in January 2017. Combining extensive executive experience with engineering and law degrees, Caperton has provided strategic direction, acquisition, disposition, financing, and project-oriented services to clients primarily in the coal, energy, and related fields. Since 1989, Caperton has generated and managed transactions for clients and consulted on a wide range of management functions, including operations, sales and finance.



Preston Cole, Secretary

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Assistant: Holly Lamers; holly.lamers@wisconsin.gov

Preston Cole has been a member of the Natural Resources Board (NRB) since 2007, first appointed by Governor Jim Doyle and then reappointed for another six-year term by Governor Scott Walker in 2013. Cole served as NRB Chair from 2013 to 2014, where he put an emphasis on making board meetings open for citizens to see online. Previously, Cole worked in a government setting as a Parks Superintendent for the city of St. Louis and a Resource Forester for the Missouri Department of Conservation. He also served as Operations Chief for the Milwaukee Department of Public Works and earlier the City Forester. Most recently, Cole was the Commissioner of the Milwaukee Department of Neighborhood Services. Secretary Cole supports traditional conservation activities and environmental protection as well as connecting nontraditional audiences with opportunities to get outdoors. Raised on 15 acres in southwestern Michigan, Secretary Cole hunts ducks, geese, and pheasants, and enjoys hiking the state park system with his wife, Laura. He graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a Bachelor of Science in Forest Management.



Darsi Foss, Division Administrator

Division of Environmental Management
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Foss became Division Administrator for the Environmental Management (EM) Division in February 2019. Foss was the Director of the Remediation and Redevelopment Program from 2014 to 2019 and served as the Remediation Redevelopment Program's Brownfields Section Chief from 1998 to 2014. Prior to joining the Department of Natural Resources in 1989, she worked at U.S. EPA headquarters in Washington, D.C., as a Policy Analyst and Presidential Management intern. Foss has a Bachelor of Science in Political Science and a Master's degree in Public Administration from Iowa State University.



WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



Todd Parfitt, Director

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Assistant: Jody Paessler; jody.paessler1@wyo.gov

Todd Parfitt was appointed Director of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WYDEQ) by Governor Matt Mead in October 2012. He has 24 years of experience with the department, including seven years in the dual role of Deputy Director and Administrator of the Industrial Siting Division. An Ohio native who went to The Ohio State University, Parfitt started his career doing water quality research on Lake Erie with The Center for Lake Erie Area Research. After earning his Master's degree in Public Administration, Environmental Policy he worked for the Ohio Fire Marshal as an Environmental Supervisor. Parfitt also spent time in the private sector as Director of Operations for the environmental consulting firm BHE Environmental. He began his career with WYDEQ in Lander in 1992. He moved to Cheyenne in 1996 and has worked in or closely with just about every part of the agency. Parfitt currently serves as ECOS Past President.

ECOS STAFF



Donald (Don) Welsh
Executive Director

202-266-4929
dwelsh@ecos.org

Major Duties:

- Supports ECOS officers
- Acts as congressional and intergovernmental liaison
- Oversees ECOS operations and staff

Donald (Don) Welsh is the Executive Director at ECOS. Prior to working at ECOS, Welsh held several positions at the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), including Deputy Secretary for State/Federal Relations. From 2001 to 2009, Welsh also served as U.S. EPA Region 3 Regional Administrator. He was President & Chief Executive Officer of the Pennsylvania Environmental Council from 2009 to 2010. Appointed in 2013 by the Governor of Pennsylvania to the Citizens' Advisory Council (CAC) to the Pennsylvania DEP, Welsh has served since 2017 as its Chairman. He also served as a voting member of the Environmental Quality Board, which adopts environmental regulations in Pennsylvania. Welsh earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Pennsylvania.



Carolyn Hanson
Deputy Executive Director

202-266-4924
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Major Duties:

- Supports the Cross-Media Committee and Federal Facilities Forum
- Supports the ERIS Board
- Manages office operations

Carolyn Hanson has served as Deputy Executive Director at ECOS since 2008. In 2002-2008, she was a Senior Project Manager at ECOS working with the Waste Committee, the ECOS-DOD Sustainability Work Group, the Federal Facilities Forum, the Quicksilver Caucus, and the Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council. Previously she worked at the Smithsonian Institution's National Science Resources Center to help develop an inquiry-based science curriculum and was a high school chemistry teacher in Asheville, North Carolina and Upper Marlboro, Maryland. Hanson has a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Davidson College and a Master of Public Administration and Certificate in Nonprofit Management from George Mason University. She is originally from Florida and now lives in Alexandria, Virginia with her two hounds.



Hibist Assegu
Accounting Assistant

202-266-4927
hassegu@ecos.org

Major Duties:

- Performs general bookkeeping/accounting tasks
- Maintains detailed reconciliations of all balance sheet accounts
- Provides detailed analyses and explanations of all transactions

Hibist Assegu is the Accounting Assistant at ECOS. She has a Bachelor's degree in Accounting and worked for Goodwill of Greater Washington as a staff accountant before joining the staff of ECOS. Assegu is a native Ethiopian who went to college and began her professional career in the United Kingdom.



Judith Cummins
Manager of Finance

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jcummins@ecos.org

Major Duties:

- Manages accounting for ECOS and ERIS
- Provides financial reporting to management, programs, and board
- Audit liaison

Judith Cummins is the Manager of Finance at ECOS. She joined ECOS in 2016 from the State Revolving Loan Fund Programs of both Alaska and Washington and has been on the U.S. EPA/State workgroup for the past 5 years, most recently as Co-Chair. She earned her CPA in 2007 and has spent time in both public accounting and state government. She graduated from West Chester University with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and is originally from Long Island, New York.



Nia Duke
Project Associate

202-266-4930
nduke@ecos.org

Major Duties:

- Supports ECOS and E-Enterprise communications
- Handles social media and graphic design

Nia Duke is the Communications Project Associate at ECOS, supporting E-Enterprise for the Environment and ECOS communications efforts. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a Master of Arts in Interactive Media from Elon University, where she studied digital communications, user experience, graphic design, and public engagement. Nia previously worked as a Communications Fellow in U.S. EPA's Office of Water.



Beth Graves
Executive Project Manager

202-266-4923
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Major Duties:

- Supports the Planning Committee
- Supports E-Enterprise
- Supports Performance and Partnership Workgroup

Beth Graves joined ECOS after working for 14 years at the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NC DENR). At NC DENR, Beth worked for the Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance, supporting the department's performance-based leadership program and leading work with industry, local governments, and hog producers on environmental management systems-related projects. Graves has also worked with local governments on organics diversion, source reduction, and recycling initiatives. Before joining state government, Graves worked for a nonprofit on a mixed paper/biosolids composting project with the City of Durham. Graves graduated from Duke University with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics.



Sarah Grace Longworth 202-266-4926
Project Associate slongworth@ecos.org

Major Duties:

- Supports PFAS, ECOS Results, and ERIS
 - Supports TSCA Workgroup and Sustainable Materials Management Workgroup
 - Supports meeting planning and the weekly newsletter
-

Sarah Grace Longworth is a Project Associate at ECOS. She previously interned at ECOS and joined the staff in May 2016 as the Administrative Assistant. A native of Bethesda, Maryland, Longworth graduated from Wake Forest University in 2016 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and a minor in Environmental Science.



Paulina Lopez-Santos 202-266-4920
Administrative Assistant plopezsantos@ecos.org

Major Duties

- Supports senior staff on projects
 - Supports office administration and meetings
-

Paulina Lopez-Santos is the Administrative Assistant at ECOS. Prior to ECOS, Lopez-Santos served as a Diversity Fellow for the Citizens' Climate Lobby and a Team Leader for Greenpeace. A native of Washington, DC, Paulina graduated from the University of Maryland with a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science and Policy.



Connor MacCartney
Project Associate

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Major Duties:

- Supports ECOS Results and Sustainable Materials Management
 - Supports the Compliance Committee, Shale Gas Caucus, and Digital Strategies Forum (formerly DMWG)
 - Supports E-Enterprise
-

Connor MacCartney joined ECOS in February 2017 as a Project Associate. He previously served as Special Assistant to the White House Liaison at U.S. EPA and as an intern at the U.S. Agency for International Development in the Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. Originally from the suburbs of Chicago, MacCartney earned his Bachelor of Science in International Relations and Diplomacy from Seton Hall University.



Owen McAleer
Project Associate

202-266-4922
omcaleer@ecos.org

Major Duties:

- Supports the Planning Committee
 - Supports the Innovation & Productivity Committee
 - Supports E-Enterprise
-

Owen McAleer joined ECOS in October 2015. He is a native of Alexandria, Virginia, where he previously worked in project management for a small technology company. McAleer received his Bachelor's degree from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service, where he pursued an environmental concentration.



Molly Olonoff
ITRC Project Associate

202-849-4982
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Major Duties:

- Supports ITRC technical teams
 - Manages social media and produces videos
 - Supports meeting planning and webinars
-

Molly Olonoff is a Project Associate for ITRC, supporting various technical teams by managing projects, meetings, webinars, and other initiatives. Originally from New York, Olonoff earned a Bachelor of Arts in Biology & Society from Cornell University, where she studied Biology, Environmental Sustainability, and Government. After graduation, she was an Intern and then a Research Assistant at Issue One.



Lia Parisien
Executive Project Manager

202-266-4931
lparisien@ecos.org

Major Duties:

- Supports the Waste Committee and Shale Gas Caucus
 - Plans ECOS Spring and Fall Meetings
 - Serves as Editor-in-Chief of ECOS newsletter
 - Manages ECOS and E-Enterprise communications
-

Lia Parisien is an Executive Project Manager for ECOS, overseeing policy matters, strategic communications, and conferences. She joined ECOS in 1999 from Inside Washington Publishers (Publisher of *Inside EPA*), where she served as Group Manager and Chief Editor of six environmental newsletters and newsmagazines. Previously, Parisien worked as a Production Assistant for CBS News *60 Minutes* and in media relations. A summa cum laude graduate of the American University in Washington, DC, she majored in Foreign Language and Communication Media and minored in International Studies.



Layne Piper
Project Manager

202-266-4928
lpiper@ecos.org

Major Duties

- Supports the Water Committee and Federal Facilities Forum
- Supports meeting planning
- Supports Digital Strategies Forum (formerly DMWG) and E-Enterprise

Layne Piper is a Project Manager at ECOS, where she began in 2013. A native Houstonian, Piper graduated from Davidson College in 2012 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and a Concentration in Environmental Studies.



Kelly Poole
Senior Project Manager

202-266-4939
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Major Duties:

- Supports E-Enterprise
- Supports the Air Committee
- Supports the Compliance Committee

Kelly Poole joined ECOS in 2015 as a Project Manager working with the Air Committee and the E-Enterprise for the Environment initiative, and providing secondary support for the Compliance Committee. Prior to joining ECOS, Poole worked as a Staff Attorney, and Policy and Legislative Affairs Coordinator for the Tennessee Environmental Council where she focused on water quality and wetlands issues. Poole earned her JD with a Certificate of Concentration in Environmental and Natural Resources Law from Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish from the University of Tennessee.



Kurt Rakouskas
Project Manager

202-266-4935
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Major Duties:

- Supports the National Environmental Information Exchange Network
- Supports E-Enterprise

Kurt Rakouskas rejoined ECOS as an Executive Project Manager in January 2018. Previously, he worked with states, tribes, and U.S. EPA as the Coordinator for the National Environmental Information Exchange Network. From 2004-2010, he worked as a Senior Project Manager at ECOS supporting state participation in the Exchange Network. Rakouskas began his career in community development finance, serving as the Operations Manager for a nonprofit community loan fund and as an Administrative Specialist at the U.S. Treasury Department's Community Development Financial Institutions Fund. Rakouskas earned a Master of Public Administration from the University of Massachusetts and a Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs from George Washington University.



Patricia Reyes
ITRC Director

202-266-4933
preyes@ecos.org

Major Duties:

- Provides leadership for ITRC and supports the ITRC Board
- Oversees ITRC operations, budgets, and staff
- Serves as spokesperson for the organization

Patricia Catherwood Reyes is the Director of the ITRC. Reyes is a recognized leader in healthcare, environment, and energy with experience at the federal, state, and congressional levels targeting technology transfer, stakeholder outreach, and policy development. She is a senior manager with broad knowledge of federal agency processes: budgeting; planning; communications; information and risk management; training; and program management. Prior to joining the ITRC, she was a Senior Manager at Noblis, a science and technology strategy firm that consults with the federal government. In that job, Reyes was a member of and consultant to several ITRC teams. She holds a Master of Public Administration degree in Environmental Systems from the American University, Washington, DC.



Tadbir Singh
ITRC Project Associate

202-849-4980
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Major Duties:

- Provides engineering support to ITRC technical teams
 - Coordinates ITRC PFAS Team
 - Writes PFAS technical guidance and fact sheets
-

Tadbir Singh joined the ITRC team in Spring 2018 as a Project Associate supporting the technical teams and managing PFAS issues. A Vermont native, she graduated in 2015 from Case Western Reserve University with a B.S.E. in Civil Engineering and a concentration in Environmental Engineering.



Carolyn Sistare
ITRC Project Manager

202-266-4932
csistare@ecos.org

Major Duties:

- Provides financial management for ITRC
 - Supports ITRC Board of Advisors
 - Supports ITRC meeting planning and outreach activities
-

Carolyn Sistare is the ITRC Project Manager. She joined ECOS in March 1999. Sistare is a native of Trinidad and Tobago and graduated from the University of Maryland University College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. She worked with the Government of Trinidad & Tobago, Ministry of Finance for 17 years before emigrating to the United States in 1997. She is currently responsible for the management of ITRC's financials, contracts, and grants.



Megan Swanson
Project Associate

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Major Duties:

- Supports the Water Committee
- Supports E-Enterprise and Shale Gas Caucus
- Supports meeting planning

Megan Swanson joined ECOS in January 2017. She graduated from University of California, Santa Barbara with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies and concentration in Biology and Chemistry. Originally from California, Swanson moved to Washington, DC for an internship at Ocean Conservancy focusing on marine debris.

Key Staff Contacts

General Inquiries: Paulina Lopez-Santos 202-266-4920

Air Committee: Kelly Poole 202-266-4939

Compliance Committee: Connor MacCartney 202-266-4921

Cross-Media Committee: Sarah Grace Longworth 202-266-4926

E-Enterprise for the Environment: Beth Graves 202-266-4923

ERIS: Carolyn Hanson 202-266-4924

Exchange Network: Kurt Rakouskas 202-266-4935

Executive Committee: Donald Welsh 202-266-4929

Innovation & Productivity Committee: Owen McAleer 202-266-4922

ITRC: Patricia Reyes 202-266-4933

Planning Committee: Beth Graves 202-266-4923

Waste Committee: Lia Parisien 202-266-4931

Water Committee: Layne Piper 202-266-4928



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