

ECOS 2018/2019 Priorities: President Becky Keogh (Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality) October 5th Letter



Walter Wright, Jr.
wwright@mwlaw.com
(501) 688.8839

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Environmental Council of the States (“ECOS”) President Becky Keogh outlined her priorities during her 2018-2019 term.

Ms. Keogh also serves as Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality.

ECOS describes itself as the national nonprofit, nonpartisan association of state and territorial agency leaders. Its purpose is stated to be the improvement of the capability of environmental agencies and their leaders to protect and improve human health and the environment of the United States of America.

Points/priorities noted in the October 5th letter include:

- Environmental challenges are at the same time unique to our states and universal to our larger national community.
- ECOS has been able to speak with one voice and lead from commonality of concern anchored in reason and research rather than divisive rhetoric.
- The collective voice of ECOS has been able to change the course of states’ relationship with federal counterparts (i.e., advancing a return to a “more robust understanding of cooperative federalism”).
- ECOS will advance a theme titled “STATE AND NATIONAL DIIALOGUE.”
- The dialogue will address both the United States Environmental Protection Agency and other national, environmentally focused agencies, tribal authorities, professional organizations, and the regulated community.
- Move from state voices being heard to a standard operating procedure of shared decision making, shared problem solving, and shared programmatic development.

A copy of the letter can be found [here](#).