

Division of Environmental Quality

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E&E Secretary Becky Keogh Awarded ECOS President's Award

NORTH LITTLE ROCK—Becky W. Keogh, Secretary of the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment, has been awarded the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) President's Award. Secretary 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 been engaged in a number of ECOS committees, including Air, Compliance, Cross Media, Water, and E-Enterprise, and served as the 2018-2019 ECOS President.

"Secretary Keogh's dedication to protecting the environment and to creating sound environmental policy has been an incredible asset to the Natural State," said Governor Asa Hutchinson. "On a national scale, her advocacy for clear and consistent policy from the United States Environmental Protection Agency and her work to promote cooperation between federal and state regulators has benefitted not only Arkansas, but all states. It comes as no surprise that her peers at the Environmental Council of the States have recognized her work with the President's Award."

The ECOS President's Award honors an ECOS member who has made significant contributions to environmental initiatives. Secretary Keogh has been a long-time and vocal proponent of consistency from the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and she was the driving force behind ECOS' cooperative federalism initiative. 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. Secretary Keogh has also participated in the Environmental Law Institute—Miriam Hamilton Keare Policy Forum and was published in *The Environmental Forum* for her remarks on cooperative federalism for environmental governance.

"I thank Becky Keogh for her grace and compassion; grit and determination and very wise counsel during this last year," said Jim Macy, ECOS President. "She maintained an unfaltering level of engagement for ECOS as past president during this challenging year with COVID-19 and other significant issues. I applaud how she maintained a great balance of all these issues and helped to make ECOS a stronger organization."

For more information on the Environmental Council of the States, visit: www.ecos.org.

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