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News Release

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New DEQ Executive Director Named

The Environmental Quality Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Scott Thompson as the new executive director of the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The board's action comes with the fullest confidence Thompson will be an excellent steward of DEQ's mission.

"The board set a high standard for the next DEQ leader," said Environmental Quality Board Chair John Wendling. "We look forward to working with Scott and believe that he will be a highly effective leader for the agency and a valuable asset to the State of Oklahoma."

Scott Thompson replaces Steve Thompson who retired in October.

Scott Thompson brings a wealth of senior management experience to this role. Prior to becoming DEQ Executive Director, Thompson served as DEQ's Land Protection Division Director since 2000. In that role, Thompson was responsible for the management of multiple permitting and enforcement programs, environmental investigation, cleanup, and engineering design projects.

Thompson has also served as an environmental programs manager responsible for managing the agency's Superfund Program. He has more than 23 years of experience managing state environmental programs.

"It is a privilege to become the next executive director," said Thompson. "I look forward to building on the agency's past accomplishments and moving toward an even brighter future."

Thompson is a 1984 graduate of Central State University with a degree in biology. He also has a master's degree in environmental science from the University of Oklahoma.

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