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## **National Association of Clean Water Administrators Elect ADEQ's Fulton as President for the Next Year**

PHOENIX (July 31, 2014) – Mike Fulton, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality's water quality division director, has been elected president of the national Association of Clean Water Administrators (ACWA) for the next year.

Fulton currently is vice president of the association, a nonpartisan organization of state and interstate officials who implement surface water programs throughout the country. Members are generally those individuals who have day-to-day responsibility for protecting and maintaining the quality of our nation's waters. The organization works in conjunction with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to meet Clean Water Act objectives.

Fulton succeeds Shellie Chard-McClary, water quality division director of the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, as president. The association has 56 members, who represent each of the states and some interstate water groups. The ACWA board has 15 members, comprising one state representative of each of the 10 EPA regions, one interstate representative, and the current treasurer, vice president, president and most recent past president of the association.

"This is recognition by national water policy leaders of the great work and breadth of knowledge that Mike brings to the table," said ADEQ Director Henry Darwin. "He has a lot of insight on issues of national importance like the 'navigable waters' rules and developing a consistent approach to what constitutes 'waters of the United States.'"

In addition to navigable waters issues, Fulton said ACWA will be dealing with a host of other challenges during the next year including nutrient levels in Chesapeake Bay, the Gulf of Mexico and other water bodies; finding solutions to close the gap between current EPA initiatives and budget realities and the gap between infrastructure needs for wastewater treatment plants and funding levels; and developing a national standard for e-reporting of monitoring data.

Fulton has a bachelor of science degree in forest/watershed management from the University of Arizona. He has been with ADEQ since 1990 and, in addition to the water quality division director, he has served as director of the former tank programs division, deputy director of the waste programs division and director of ADEQ's southern regional office in Tucson.

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