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ADEQ Director Darwin Elected Officer of Environmental Council of the States for Coming Year

PHOENIX (Sept. 19, 2014) – Arizona Department of Environmental Quality Director Henry Darwin was elected by his peers to be secretary-treasurer of the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) for the coming year at the organization’s fall meeting in Santa Fe, N.M., this week.

ECOS is the national non-profit, non-partisan association of state and territorial environmental agency leaders. 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.

Darwin said one of the key projects he will be involved in is advancing the E-Enterprise for the Environment initiative, a joint project between the states and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to streamline and modernize the business of environmental protection throughout the country. ADEQ has been a national leader in these efforts by improving productivity and efficiency for the regulated community and the general public.

“Being an officer in ECOS provides a unique opportunity to influence environmental policy in the U.S. by allowing direct access to leadership at EPA, which is great news for Arizona,” Darwin said.

Robert J. Martineau, Jr., commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, was elected president of ECOS and Martha Rudolph, director of environmental programs with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, was elected vice president. The other board member is ECOS past President Dick Pedersen, director of the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

Darwin has been director of ADEQ since 2011 after serving as deputy director, acting director of the Water Quality Division, and Administrative Counsel for the agency. He has worked in each of agency’s divisions – air quality, water quality and waste programs – during his 17-year career at ADEQ.

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