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## Mississippi Environmental Personnel Moves: Chris Wells Announced as Permanent Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Executive Director

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Mississippi Governor Tate Reeves announced on October 20th that Mr. Chris Wells has been appointed to serve as permanent Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (“MDEQ”).

Mr. Wells had been serving as interim Executive Director.

The MDEQ Executive Director position is the senior agency manager.

Mr. Wells previously served as the MDEQ Chief of Staff for six years. Prior to that he served as Senior attorney for MDEQ. He is a graduate of Mississippi State University and the Mississippi College School of Law.

MDEQ is overseen by a Commission on Environmental Quality which is provided the authority to formulate policy, enforce rules and regulations, receive funding, conduct studies for using the state’s resources, and discharge duties, responsibilities and power as necessary. The seven members are appointed by the Governor and serve staggered, seven-year terms.

A copy of the MDEQ news release can be downloaded [here](#).