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Arkansas Environmental Personnel Moves (Update): Former Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality Director Teresa Marks, Serving as Chief Deputy Director of the California Department of Pesticide Regulation

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Former Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (“ADEQ”) Director Teresa Marks is now serving as Chief Deputy Director of the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (“DPR”).

Ms. Marks was appointed to the position by California Governor Jerry Brown in June of 2016.

Immediately prior to joining California DPR, Ms. Marks served as principal advisor to the United States Environmental Protection Agency Administrator for unconventional oil and gas from 2015 to 2016.

California DPR focuses on the regulation of pesticide sales and use. The agency’s oversight of these materials includes:

- Pesticide product evaluation registration
- Licensing of commercial applicators, dealers, consultants, and other pesticide professionals
- Evaluation of health impacts of pesticides through illness surveillance and risk assessment
- Environmental monitoring of air, water, and soil
- Field enforcement of laws regulating pesticide use
- Residue testing of fresh produce
- Development and adoption of least-toxic pest management practices through incentives and grants

Ms. Marks had served as Director of ADEQ from 2007 to 2014. Prior to her service as ADEQ Director she held several positions in the Arkansas Attorney General’s Office from 1995 to 2007. During her tenure as ADEQ Director, she also served a term as President of the Environmental Council of the States. Current ADEQ Director Becky Keogh is serving as Vice-President of that organization.