

Teresa Marks is director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, the state's largest environmental policy and regulatory agency. Marks oversees the work of approximately 400 employees with the charge to protect, enhance and restore the environment of Arkansas. In 2011 Marks was elected to the Board of the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) and currently serves as President.

After graduating from the University of Arkansas at Monticello, Marks became a high school teacher, where she taught secondary level students in geography, history and civics. She returned to the classroom the following year, graduating from the Bowen School of Law at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, with a juris doctorate degree.

Her first job as a lawyer was with the Pulaski County Prosecuting Attorney's Office as a deputy prosecuting attorney. Later Marks briefly worked as a private practice attorney before joining the University of Arkansas – Little Rock Bowen School of Law faculty in 1990. During her time there as the supervising attorney of the Law Legal Clinic, Marks supervised the students' representation of indigent clients.

In 1995, Marks began serving the state in the Office of Attorney General, a job that would last for almost twelve years, gaining expertise in drafting legislation, and working in the areas of consumer protection and antitrust. Eventually, Marks was named Arkansas Attorney General's Public Protection Department deputy attorney general, where she supervised several lawyers and support staff in representing the interests of consumers and state agencies in consumer protection, antitrust, utilities and environmental matters.

In 2007, Arkansas Governor Mike Beebe appointed Marks to her current position as head of the organization responsible for protecting Arkansas' air, water and land from the threat of pollution.