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Elizabeth Biser Secretary North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality

Governor Roy Cooper named Elizabeth S. Biser as Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality in June 2021. She is the first woman confirmed as DEQ Secretary.

In August of 2023, she was elected to serve as President of the Environmental Council of States (ECOS) the national nonprofit, nonpartisan association of state and territorial environmental agency leaders.



As DEQ Secretary, she oversees the state agency whose mission is to protect North Carolina's environment and natural resources. The organization has offices from the mountains to the coast and administers regulatory and public assistance programs aimed at protecting the quality of North Carolina's air, water and land, its coastal resources and marine fisheries, and the public's health.

Secretary Biser's appointment marks a return to the Department. She previously served as Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs when the agency was known as the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Biser most recently served as the President of Biser Strategies LLC. Previously, she was the Vice President of Policy and Public Affairs of the Recycling Partnership, and the Government Relations & Policy Advisor of Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard, LLP.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Public Administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.