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## SPECIAL REPORT

July 14, 2016

**Governor Rick Snyder** announced today the appointment of **Heidi Grether** as **Director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)**. Currently deputy director of the **Michigan Agency for Energy**, **Ms. Grether** will officially begin her new position on August 1.

Prior to working with the **Agency**, **Ms. Grether** spent the majority of her career with the oil company **BP** as a lobbyist and state government affairs director. After assisting in the company's response to the **Deepwater Horizon** spill in the **Gulf of Mexico**, **Ms. Grether** was promoted to general manager of **Gulf Coast External Affairs** for **BP**. Having worked briefly in the offices of former **House Speaker Paul Hillemonds** and former **Senate Majority Leader John Engler**, **Ms. Grether** is also familiar with the legislative process.

Releasing a statement on the recent appointment, **Governor Snyder** praised **Ms. Grether** saying, "Heidi has decades of experience in environmental quality issues, and has effectively served during times of crises and recovery. Her expertise in delivering good customer service from a large organization will be of great value as we continue working to reinvent the department and act more proactively to address issues that arise."

Former **Interim Director Keith Creagh** will be returning to his previous role as director of the **Department of Natural Resources**. **Mr. Creagh** was named **Interim Director** of **DEQ** after the **Flint Water Crisis** as **Mr. Snyder** asked then **Director Dan Wyant** to resign.

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