



State of Utah

Department of
Environmental Quality

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NEWS RELEASE
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LeBaron Selected Deputy Director of Air Quality

Salt Lake City, Utah – Brock LeBaron, an environmental scientist and program manager with the Division of Air Quality (DAQ) for 21 years, has been named to fill the newly-created post Deputy Director of Air to focus on air issues in rural Utah.

Amanda Smith, executive director of the Department of Environmental Quality, created the new position to draw specific attention to air quality challenges facing rural areas like Uintah County.

“Brock brings a wealth of experience that will allow him to effectively coordinate air quality issues that impact the rural areas of the state,” said Smith. “I have great confidence in his ability to bring stakeholders together to resolve the issues.”

Bryce Bird, director of DAQ, announced the appointment effective today.

“Brock worked under the Western Governor’s Grand Canyon Visibility Transport Commission to address regional haze and has been the state lead in coordinating with the Environmental Protection Agency and federal land managers to understand air quality issues that impact communities in the Uintah Basin,” Bird said. “In his new position Brock will bring additional focus to new concerns with rural air quality due to increasing federal requirements, new energy development and concerns with transport of emissions from other states in the Western region.”

LeBaron holds a graduate degree in meteorology from Utah State University. In 1990, he came to work for DAQ as an air quality modeler. The past 15 years he has served as the manager for the Technical Analysis Section, currently focused on developing a State Implementation Plan to meet federal standards for wintertime particulate pollution.

“I’m excited to take on this task,” LeBaron said. “Protecting air quality in rural areas is important for our future in energy development as the population grows.”

LeBaron lives with his wife, Michelle, and a daughter, in Salt Lake City.

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