


Granholtm names interim chief for Department of Environmental Quality

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LANSING — The Michigan Department of [Environmental](#) Quality's deputy director will become the interim director — but only for 12 days.

Gov. [Jennifer Granholm](#)  announced today that she had appointed Jim Sygo interim director beginning Jan. 5, 2010. Current director Steven Chester is leaving Jan. 4 to return to practicing law.

Sygo's appointment will be in effect through Jan. 17, when Granholm's executive order combining the DEQ and the Department of [Natural Resources](#) takes effect.

The governor plans to appoint a permanent director of the Department of Natural Resources and the [Environment](#) around the time of the merger.

Chester was one of Granholm's earliest cabinet picks and has been in the post since 2003.