

Jeffrey F. Starling
Secretary of Energy & Environment



J. Kevin Stitt
Governor

STATE OF OKLAHOMA
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

September 24, 2026

Delivery via Electronic Mail (Kevin.Stitt@gov.ok.gov)

Governor J. Kevin Stitt
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 212
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Governor Stitt:

I write to formally submit my resignation as Secretary of Energy and Environment for the State of Oklahoma, effective October 3, 2026.

Oklahoma has a long and proud history of innovation and leadership in the energy industry, from the oil boom in the 1900s to the more recent shale revolution that has increased this nation's energy security and continues to have profound effects across the globe. It has been an honor to serve in your administration and to work on issues so central to Oklahoma's economy, communities, and natural resources. I am grateful for the trust you placed in me and for the opportunity to serve the people of this great state.

Among the accomplishments I am most proud of is leading the Department of Environmental Quality's pilot program using artificial intelligence to modernize regulation and permitting. In early results, the tool flagged potential improvements to 1,704 of 1,962 regulatory provisions reviewed. As recently noted by the C. Boyden Gray Center, DEQ staff research tasks that once averaged three hours now take about 17 minutes; in one case, a permitting task estimated at 40 hours was completed in one. This work continues at DEQ and serves as a model that, if expanded to other Oklahoma agencies, could lead the nation in promoting effective and efficient government.

I am also proud to position Oklahoma as one of six finalists, out of 28 applications from 26 states, for the U.S. Department of Energy's Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation Campus. Oklahoma is very well positioned and, if selected as a host state, the campus could bring billions of dollars in investment, expanded domestic manufacturing, additional resources and opportunities to our university and CareerTech systems, and thousands of high-paying jobs, while adding nuclear research and innovation to Oklahoma's long record of energy leadership.

Above all, I thank the dedicated public servants I have worked alongside for their professionalism and commitment. Between now and my last day, I will do everything I can to ensure a smooth transition and assist in any other way that would be helpful.

Thank you again for the privilege of serving Oklahoma.

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "JF Starling", with a stylized flourish at the end.

204 N. ROBINSON, SUITE 1010 • OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73102 • 405-522-7099