

Hilda Gay Legg

Administrator, Rural Utilities Service *(invited)*

Hilda Gay Legg was appointed Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service by President George W. Bush and confirmed by a unanimous vote of the U.S. Senate on September 27, 2001. Ms. Legg administers to the infrastructure needs of rural America through loan and grant funds totaling more than \$6 billion for Water and Environment Programs, Rural Telecommunications and Rural Electrification.



Ms. Legg came to Washington from the Center for Rural Development in Somerset, Kentucky, where she served seven years as Executive Director and CEO. The Center is a national model for economic development in rural areas in such projects as education, workforce training, telecommunications, arts and culture and environment. In 1990, she was appointed by President George Bush as Alternative Federal Co-Chairman for the Appalachian Regional Commission. Her primary responsibilities were to represent and promote the economic policies for the region's 21 million people and \$190 million budget aimed at job creation, infrastructure education and training.

Ms. Legg has been invited to address the Wednesday noon luncheon.

Robert Johnson

CEO, National Rural Water Association

Robert Johnson is CEO of the National Rural Water Association headquartered in Duncan, OK. He has worked for NRWA since beginning there as Training Director in 1978.



Johnson is responsible for the overall management of NRWA. National Rural Water has 45 affiliate state association members including KRWA. NRWA contracts programs such as the Circuit Rider, Wastewater, EPA Training & TA and Ground Water to state affiliates. NRWA is the largest water utility membership organization in the U.S. with more than 22,000 members.

Robert will address the Thursday noon luncheon to provide an update on NRWA legislative and regulatory initiatives and other issues which NRWA is involved with.