



STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

USDA Announces Administrator for Rural Utilities Service

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6, 2018 – Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development Anne Hazlett today touted the appointment of Kenneth Johnson as the Administrator of Rural Development’s Rural Utilities Service.

Johnson comes to Rural Development with many decades of experience deploying rural infrastructure. As the General Manager / CEO of Co-Mo Electric Cooperative and President for Co-Mo Connect in Tipton, Missouri, Johnson lead the deployment of the first fiber-to-the-home network to all its members, providing gigabit internet, video, and voice services to nearly 16,000 family homes and businesses, without federal or state funding.

In addition, Johnson is a director and past President for Central Electric Power Cooperative, a Director for the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives and served on the Executive and Legislative committees. Prior to this, Johnson was General Manager for Twin Valleys PPD in Nebraska after beginning his career with the Nebraska Public Power District. He earned an undergraduate degree from Kearney State College and is a graduate of the NRECA Robert I. Kabat Management Internship Program. Johnson grew up on a farm near Edgar, NE and has spent his life working in and serving rural America.

As Administrator of Rural Development’s Rural Utilities Service, Johnson will help lead USDA to support Secretary Perdue’s top priority to bring high-speed broadband internet, and the world of opportunities that comes with e-Connectivity, to rural America.

USDA encourages partners and stakeholder groups to reach out to Johnson in his new role to build on existing partnerships and facilitate new relationships.

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