



# NEWS RELEASE

## **National Rural Economic Developers Association (NREDA)**

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## ***NREDA RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LEADERSHIP AWARD PRESENTED TO JAMES T. "TIM" MOOD AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN DESTIN, FL***

Destin, Florida, November 8-10, 2009 – A delegation of over 100 members of National Rural Economic Developers Association (NREDA) will be attending the Association's annual conference in Destin, Florida, on November, 8-10 at the Hilton Sandestin. **Honored at the NREDA Awards Breakfast will be James T. "Tim" Mood, Vice President Economic Development, Electric Power Associations of Mississippi as the "2009 NREDA Rural Economic Development Leadership Award" recipient.**

The Rural Economic Development Leadership Award recognizes outstanding leadership in the field of rural economic development. NREDA seeks to honor deserving individuals across America. Nominees may be economic development professionals or rural electric cooperative/rural telephone staff or board members. Nominees are those who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in an economic development project resulting in the improvement of the quality of life, creation of new jobs, and opportunity for growth and development in rural America.

This is a very prestigious honor. James T. "Tim" Mood was chosen by a national selection committee representing electric and telephone cooperatives from across the nation. NREDA is a vital network of rural economic development professionals providing expertise and national leadership on rural issues.

Tim was selected because he is the epitome of an electric cooperative economic developer. He is active in the community, professionally as well as personally. He has bettered himself by returning to professional schools as well as graduate school. He helps his member cooperatives by assisting with all phases of the economic development process. He has completed numerous "Redleg applications on behalf of his Member cooperatives as well as helped assist with industrial park and site development. In addition, he has assisted in all phases of economic development projects from feasibility studies to health care to disaster relief. He was nominated by one of his distribution cooperative managers which is the true test of his worth to his constituents.

The Annual Conference theme of *“Positioning Rural America for Success!”* will bring in over a dozen presenters from all facets of economic development. The Conference supports NREDA's mission to provide education, advocacy and networking opportunities to rural and suburban utilities and affiliated organizations.