



**Dede Smith**, Deputy Director for the Inland Rivers, Ports and Terminals, has 35 years of experience in the transportation industry. On behalf of IRPT's membership, Dede works closely with industry leaders, local, state, and federal entities, as well as the U.S. Congressional Delegation to communicate the needs and challenges facing the U.S. regarding waterway infrastructure and the importance of the inland river transportation system to the nation.

Before joining the IRPT team, Dede held the position of Director of the Arkansas Waterways Commission for 2 ½ years, and as Waterways Manager for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for the last six of her 32 years with ODOT.

Dede has served as Vice-Chair on the American Association of State Highway Transportation Official's Counsel on Water Transportation, the Board of Directors for IRPT, the Maritime Transportation Research and Education Center Board with the University of Arkansas, the Executive Committee for the National Waterways Conference; the Governor's Levee Task Force for the State of Arkansas, and Metroplan's Transportation Committee for the City of Little Rock, AR.

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*Inland Rivers, Ports & Terminals, Inc. (IRPT) is a nationwide trade association for users of the U.S. Inland Waterway system. IRPT promotes the use of our nation's rivers as the most cost effective, and environmentally-friendly form of transportation. We do this by keeping our members informed on federal legislation and security issues affecting our river system, promoting and marketing our inland waterway system, and working with port leaders to unify the inland ports, terminals, and river systems.*