BOB DOLE 1 ST DISTRICT, KANSAS

244 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING CAPITOL 4-3121, EXT. 2715

> COMMITTEE: AGRICULTURE

DISTRICT OFFICE: 210 FEDERAL BUILDING HUTCHINSON, KANSAS 67501

## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Mashington, D.C. 20515

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STATEMENT BY HONORABLE BOB DOLE TO THE PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS May 17, 1965

I appreciate this opportunity to present a statement concerning the various projects in my Congressional District for which funds are recommended in the budget for Fiscal Year 1966. My comments are given separately on each project in the following order:

	Construction	:	1 - Almena Unit (Norton Dam)
			2 - Glen Elder Unit
	Investigations :		3 - Bostwick Unit
			4 - Wilson Dam
			5 - Cedar Bluff Unit
		:	6 - Arkansas River (Great Bend, Kans. to John Martin Dam, Colo.)
			7 - Cimarron River Basin (Ks., N. Mex., Okla., and Colo.)
			8 - Wilson Unit (See Wilson Dam)
			9 - Cow Creek, Hutchinson, Kansas
			10 - Kipp Unit

#1 - Almena Unit - The Norton Dam, a part of this project is virtually completed, including the relocation of railroads and highways. Practically all that remains to be done in the vicinity of the reservoir is completion of health and safety facilities, for which \$200,000 is requested in the budget.

Nearly all work on the irrigation facilities remains to be done. Last year Congress provided program authority for \$850,000, making possible a start on Irrigation District

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No. 5. Design and specification work was undertaken, and according to information furnished me by the Bureau of Reclamation, this preliminary activity is approximately 90% completed, thus making possible an early construction contract award.

Senator Keith Sebelius of Norton, Kansas who has appeared before the subcommittee the past several years in behalf of this project, has been a key figure in organizing the irrigation district, and in fact, deserves much credit for the entire project having reached its present stage.

Farmers are anxiously awaiting the day when water will be delivered to their farms. They have been paying taxes for more than 7 years to meet the costs of organization, operation, and planning for irrigation. They remain eager and willing to carry out their part of the contract.

This is not a "new start", and the \$1-million being requested to initiate construction of the irrigation facilities is within the capability of the Bureau of Reclamation to utilize effectively, according to estimates reported to me. I therefore urge the committee's favorable consideration of this request.

<u>#2 - Glen Elder Unit</u> - The budget recommendation for the Glen Elder Unit is \$17-million for fiscal 1966. This will permit continued construction on the Dam, and cover costs of relocating U. S. Highway 24, State Highways K-181 and K-128, as well as the Missouri-Pacific Railroad. Construction of various drains and levees, and relocation of county roads and other activities is also contemplated under this appropriation.

<u>#3 - Bostwick Unit</u> - The budget includes \$324,000 for construction of subsurface drains, farm outlet drains, and earth lining on the Courtland Canal in Kansas. Designs and specifications will be prepared for the Courtland N. 3 pump, canal and laterals, and construction commenced. Work under this program will amount to \$244,000 in Kansas and the balance of \$80,000 in Nebraska.

 $\frac{\#4}{4}$  - Wilson Dam - The Dam has been completed ahead of schedule and \$130,000 is requested in fiscal 1966 for operation and maintenance. Investigations of the irrigation features

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(Wilson Unit) have been underway and \$77,000 is recommended to enable the Bureau of Reclamaticn to continue these activities in Fiscal 1966.

<u>#5 - Cedar Bluff Unit</u> - A sum of \$63,000 is requested for earth lining of the Cedar Bluff main canal, and construction of farm outlet drain structures.

## INVESTIGATIONS

<u>#6 - Arkansas River (Great Bend to John Martin Dam, Colo.</u>) - \$74,000 is recommended to continue investigations by the Corps of Army Engineers to determine the extent and character of the flood and related problems of the subbasin and the feasibility of additional improvements for water resources development.

<u>#7 - Cimarron River Basin (Kans., N. Mex., Okla., and Colo</u>.) - The amount requested is \$110,000 for fiscal 1966 - \$50,000 more than provided in Fiscal 1965, to continue the investigations by the Corps of Engineers to develop a possible plan to improve the water resources of the Cimarron River Basin. Also, \$75,000 is requested for investigations for Arkansas River, Hutchinson to Cimarron River and tributaries in Kansas and Oklahoma.

#8 - Wilson Unit - Included under Wilson Dam (#4).

<u>#9 - Cow Creek</u> - \$50,000 is requested for advance engineering by the Corps of Army Engineers on flood protection works in the vicinity of Hutchinson, Kansas.

<u>#10 - Kipp Unit</u> - The budget recommendation for this project is \$44,000 to insure continued studies during Fiscal 1966. The final report is scheduled for completion in 1967.

<u>Summary</u> - It will be of interest to Members of the subcommittee that the report on the Great Bend Flood Protection project is presently under review by the Budget Bureau, and it is contemplated the report will reach the House Public Works Committee to be included in an omnibus public works authorization bill this year. According to the staff of the Public Works Committee the report on the Hays, Kansas Flood Control Project is expected at any time, also to be included in the authorization bill.

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There is also a considerable area of interest among citizens of southwestern Kansas in an appropriation for the Optima Dam on the North Canadian River in Oklahoma. Mr. R. J. Leete, Mayor of Liberal, Kansas, and Mr. Merle Goddard, Manager of the Liberal Chamber of Commerce, have submitted statements to the subcommittee in support of a \$1,200,000 request being made by a delegation from Oklahoma for this purpose.