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FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SEN. BOB DOLE NEW SENATE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510 (202) 225-8947

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FOR RELEASE: APRIL 26,1971, MONDAY

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 26 --- U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.) today requested President Nixon appoint an inter-agency advisory council to review the proposed nuclear repository facility to be located near Lyons, Kansas.

In a letter to the President, Dole explained:

A continuing review is needed of the risks attendant to the proposed repository, adequate to satisfy not only the federal government, but the citizens of Kansas.

The Atomic Energy Commission first made public its tentative decision to locate a nuclear repository near Lyons more than 10 months ago. Dole indicated the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, is expected to take final action on the AEC's request for authorization, before the end of the month.

The Kansas Senator's letter stated that "scientific information supports the concept of the underground storage of radioactive wastes in salt formations as intrinsically the safest of the alternatives under consideration," but Dole stressed that his main concern is "whether Lyons, Kansas, is an appropriate site for such a repository."

The letter pointed out that the proposed facility would be "the first such repository, and in order to insure an independent review of the available information" the Senator requested the 'advisory council be appointed. Dole suggested it be composed of one representatave from each of the following: Council of Environmental Quality, Office of Science and Technology in the Executive, Environmental Protection Agency and Atomic Energy Commission; and of two representatives from Kansas.

Dole specified that the advisory council should submit periodic reports to the President and the Congress on its findings, including recommendations for further research necessary to answer questions concerning potential public health and environmental effects.

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