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I.C.C. FORMALLY ANNOUNCES APPROVAL OF DIRECTED SERVICE FOR MANHATTAN-PHILLIPSBURG LINE

(WASHINGTON)-- The Interstate Commerce Committee today formally announced its decision to grant a directed service order restoring service along a stretch of bankrupt Rock Island Railroad track in north central Kansas, according to Senators Bob Dole and Nancy Kassebaum.

The Kansas Senators said they received notice at 1:00 P.M. EDT from the I.C.C.

The service will begin in early September and will be for a 90-day period.

The contractor will be Morrison-Knudson Construction Co., an international construction company headquartered in Boise, Idaho.

During the 90-day period The Mid-States Port Authority, a non-profit group of Kansans headed by McDill "Fuck" Boyd of Phillipsburg, will be examining studies to see if it is feasible to purchase some or all of the Rock's northern line.

"It is my continued hope that a permanent solution can be found to aid our farmers and other shippers on this line," Dole said when contacted in Hugoton, Kansas today. "Today's action is a great relief to the people of northern Kansas, but it's temporary relief. We need to seek a cure to this transportation dilemma."