

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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DOLE SAYS IOLA WORKERS QUALIFY FOR UNFAIR TRADE BENEFITS

Washington, DC -- Approximately 20 former employees of Carmel Energy, Inc., in Iola, qualify for special jobless benefits under a U.S. Department of Labor program, Senator Bob Dole announced today.

"The benefits, which include unemployment payments and job retraining assistance, are offered to U.S. workers who lose their jobs as a result of unfair foreign trade competition," according to Dole. He said, "These 20 Carmel Energy workers lost their jobs when their employer's traditional customers purchased less domestic crude oil from Carmel Energy in favor of cheaper imports."

Sen. Dole said the former workers would be eligible for payments if their state unemployment benefits had run out. "The amount of the payments would roughly equal what their state benefits had been," according to Dole. The eligibility period expires in two years, he said.

According to Dole, benefits are made from the Dept. of Labor's Trade Adjustment Assistance Program, authorized in 1974 to give relief to American workers who lose their jobs because of unfair foreign competition. "The former employees will be notified of their status by the Labor Department and will have to formally apply for the benefits," said Sen. Dole.