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DOLE WELCOMES APPROVAL OF SUNFLOWER DEBT PLAN

Washington, D.C. -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole welcomed the approval today by the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) of Sunflower Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s debt restructuring plan.

"The approval of this plan should put Sunflower on a sound financial footing and greatly reduce the likelihood of any rate increase. This is good news for electric consumers," said Senator Dole.

Dole noted that numerous federal agencies and creditors were involved in the negotiations leading to the adoption of the plan. The restructuring involves \$663 million worth of debt and will reduce the cooperative's annual interest payment by \$27 million.

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