

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas) SH 141 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-1601

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: SARA BELDEN
(202) 224-6521

EPA LISTENS TO DOLE: UNDERGROUND TANK REQUIREMENTS DELAYED

Washington, D.C. -- SENATOR BOB DOLE (R-KS) ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT EPA WILL SOON TAKE ACTION TO EXTEND FOR ONE YEAR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY COMPLIANCE DATES FOR UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK OWNERS AND OPERATORS. THIS ONE YEAR EXTENSION FOR PETROLEUM MARKETERS OWNING BETWEEN 13 AND 99 TANKS AND BETWEEN ONE AND 12 TANKS WILL PROVIDE SHORT TERM RELIEF FOR COMPLIANCE WITH EPA FINANCIAL ASSURANCE REQUIREMENTS.

OWNERS OF 13 TO 99 TANKS, WHO WERE REQUIRED TO COMPLY APRIL 26, 1990, WILL NOW HAVE UNTIL APRIL 26, 1991. LIKEWISE, OWNERS OF ONE TO 12 TANKS OR THOSE HAVING LESS THAN 100 AT A SINGLE SITE, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NON-MARKETERS WITH LESS THAN \$20 MILLION TANGIBLE NET WORTH WHO WERE REQUIRED TO COMPLY OCTOBER 26, 1990 WILL HAVE UNTIL OCTOBER 26, 1991 TO MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS.

"THIS IS GREAT NEWS FOR KANSAS, ESPECIALLY RURAL KANSAS," SAID SENATOR DOLE. "I HAVE BEEN FIGHTING FOR A FAIRER RULE FROM EPA FOR MONTHS. THIS WILL IMMEDIATELY PREVENT OVER 400 INDEPENDENT KANSAS SERVICE STATIONS FROM CLOSING DOWN."

DOLE INTRODUCED LEGISLATION IN AUGUST TO BLOCK EPA FROM ENFORCING FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS UNTIL EPA COULD CERTIFY THAT REASONABLE AFFORDABLE INSURANCE WAS AVAILABLE. IN ADDITION, THE LEGISLATION ALLOWED EPA TO ENFORCE THESE REQUIREMENTS ONLY IF THEY WOULD NOT IMPOSE AN UNJUSTIFIED ECONOMIC BURDEN ON THE OWNER.

EPA IS EXPECTED TO PUBLISH THE RULE IMPLEMENTING THESE EXTENSIONS IN APRIL.

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