

Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

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WICHITA TO RECEIVE NEXRAD DOPPLER RADAR THIS YEAR;
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PUSHES UP DATE FOR INSTALLMENT

WASHINGTON - Kansas Senator Bob Dole announced today that the NEXRAD Doppler radar, part of the National Weather Service's modernization program for severe weather detection, should be in place for Wichita this August. Plans had originally scheduled the radar to be installed in late 1992 or early 1993.

"This next generation of high-tech tornado warning equipment is vital to Kansas and will put Wichita one step closer to getting the technology it needs to give its citizens the advance warning they deserve," said Dole.

Senator Dole was notified of the new NEXRAD target date by the Director of the National Weather Service.

Last year, Dole secured funding for the National Weather Services's modernization program -- including NEXRAD Doppler radar and the Automated Surface Observing System (ASOS) - which provides early and accurate forecasting of approaching tornadoes. Dole included \$155.6 million in the FY92 Commerce, State and Justice Appropriations bill, successfully restoring \$33 million cut out of the Service's budget by the U.S. House of Representatives.

In all, the National Weather Service has slated 4 Kansas sites to receive the advanced NEXRAD system. Dodge City already has its system, and delivery is expected for Goodland in 1992, and Topeka in 1993.

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