BOB DOLE
1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS

243 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
AREA CODE 202
225-2715

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

DISTRICT OFFICE:
210 FEDERAL BUILDING
HUTCHINSON, KANSAS 67501

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

COUNTIES:
BARBER, BARTON, CHEYENNE, CLARK, CLOUD, COMANCHE, DECATUR, EDWARDS, ELLIS, ELLSWORTH, FINNEY, FORD, GOVE, GRAHAM, GRANT, GRAY, GREELEY, HAMILTON, HARPER, HASKEL, HODGEMAN, JEWELL, KEARNY, KINGMAN, KIOWA, LANE, LINCOLN, LOGAN, MEADE, MITCHELL, MORTON, NESS, NORTON, OSBORNE, OTTAWA, PAWNEE, PHILLIPS, PRATT

STATEMENT ON SPILLMAN CREEK WATERSHED
BY CONGRESSMAN BOB DOLE, FIRST DISTRICT - KANSAS
BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSERVATION AND CREDIT OF THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
February 16, 1967

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

I am pleased to have this opportunity to visit with you about the Spillman Creek Watershed located in parts of Lincoln, Mitchell, Osborne and Russell Counties, Kansas, in my Congressional District.

The area is naturally suited to general type farming. Most of the farms are diversified raising primarily wheat, grain sorghums, and alfalfa. Wheat is the major cash crop. The other grains and hay are marketed through livestock.

About 6.5 percent of the watershed or 10,105 acres are subject to damage by frequent flooding. Floodwater damage to crops and pastures averages $99,600 annually and accounts for 62 percent of the total floodwater damage. Floods can cause considerable damage to farm fences, equipment and livestock installations. Flood flows wash away road surfacing, scour road shoulders, damage bridges and generally cause extensive damage to roads and railroads.

The Lincoln, Mitchell, Osborne and Russell County Soil Conservation Districts have assisted farmers to apply over $850,000 worth of land treatment measures in the past and have planned a vigorous program of accelerated application of land treatment measures for the 7 year project installation period. This treatment together with a system of 21 floodwater retarding structures and 2 grade stabilization structures will reduce floodwater damages by more than 60 percent and permit farmers to use their land to its best advantage. Local business concerns supplying farm equipment and materials will also benefit from a more prosperous agriculture.

Much credit is due the farmers and landowners directly concerned with this project, and especially Mr. William G. Heller the President of the Spillman Creek Watershed District No. 43; Mr. Harold Heller, Chairman of the Mitchell County Soil Conservation District; Mr. Earl T. Poore, Chairman of the Osborne County Soil Conservation District; Mr. Stanley Novak, Chairman, Russell County Soil Conservation District; and Mr. Alfred A. Vonada, Chairman of the Lincoln County Soil Conservation District for their leadership and perserverance in

(over)

in bringing the application to its current status. Local support and interest is high as evidenced by their willingness to contribute about $1,000,000 towards cost of the project. When completed the project is expected to return $2.10 for each $1.00 of cost.

The completion of this project will be of great benefit to this area of Kansas. I consider it to be highly desirable and worthy of your consideration.