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U.S. Sen. Bob Dole issued a statement today commenting on the President's "Energy Message" released from the White House at noon.

President Nixon's energy message contains the first comprehensive federal approach to the energy supply problems facing our nation in the 1970s. The new initiatives and commitments proposed by the President to help insure clean energy supplies recognize the complex relationship between our energy needs, the environment, resource conservation, economic growth and the attainment of other national goals.

I am hopeful the Congress and the nation will recognize the importance of cooperation in this new effort.

Of particular interest to Kansas is the importance the President placed on the research and development of new energy sources, and on the importance on nuclear power. Of research that deserves our highest priority, the President included Magnetohydrodynamic power cycles--- and energy process that requires the use of liquid helium.

Other areas President Nixon designated for research that require helium included:

1. Controlled thermonuclear fusion;
2. Underground electric transmission technique, and
3. Development of the breeder reactor, labeled by President Nixon as our "best hope for meeting the Nation's growing demand for economical, clean energy.

With the new emphasis on programs requiring additional helium, the government may want to re-evaluate the decision to cancel the helium contracts with the helium plants in western Kansas.

In addition, the stress placed by the President on the development of nuclear power, makes it even more important that the question of how to safely dispose of high-level nuclear waste be resolved.