

FROM: THE OFFICE OF U.S. SEN. BOB DOLE
NEW SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510
(202) 225-8947

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WASHINGTON, D.C., Sept. 23, 1971 --- U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.)
learned today from the Secretary of Agriculture that U.S.D.A.
authorization of the Flint Hills Resource Conservation and Development
(R, C & D) is imminent.

The area to receive the R, C & D authorization takes in 2,104,620
acres in Morris, Marion, Lyon and Chase counties. Farms in the project
area number 6,099.

Dole explained that citizens from the four-county area had formed
the Flint Hills organization in an effort to improve the utilization
of existing resources and to stimulate economic growth. Dole said
the group sought authorization by the U.S.D.A. so that it would be
able to coordinate local, state and federal programs to achieve maximum
benefit.

The Kansas Senator actively supported the Flint Hills group's
R, C & D application because "while in its organizational stage, it
demonstrated commendable ability to work together in the coordination
of the county's 16 watershed districts and other multi-county projects."
"This authorization," Dole said, "will now provide these Flint Hills
residents the opportunity to maximize the benefits of all existing
programs and will make available to them technical assistance from
Soil Conservation Service and other U.S.D.A. personnel."

Technical assistance will be made available in the areas of soil
and water conservation, flood control, water pollution, natural resource
preservation and urban and rural development protection. "This
technical assistance," Dole said, "should help the people maintain
their tax base, protect their health and generally improve their
welfare. In addition to the rural benefits, income producing enter-
prises will be able to expand and diversify, resulting in a better
overall standard of living."