

NEW SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C., JAN. 6, 1972 -- U.S. Senator Bob Dole today said the release by President Nixon of an additional \$109 million for the electric loan program of the Rural Electrification Administration is, "yet another demonstration of the commitment of President Nixon and Secretary of Agriculture Butz for the improvement of life in rural America."

Dole said, "American farmers have more than doubled their use of electricity over the past seven years and will require even more electric power for their farm equipment in the future. This growing need for power coupled with the importance of electricity to general rural development makes the full funding of this program essential."

Congress approved \$545 million for rural electrification loans this fiscal year, \$216 million over the budget request. Immediate release of the \$109 million brings the total for the rural electric program to \$438 million for this fiscal year. Current plans call for the release of the balance in July.