



NEWS from
**U.S. Senator
Bob Dole**

(R.-Kans.)

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WASHINGTON, D.C., Feb. 17, 1972 --- In a letter to the President, recently, U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.) asked that the remaining \$107 million be released from the Office of Management and Budget in the Executive for the loan program of the Rural Electrification Administration.

Congress approved \$545 million for REA loans for this fiscal year and to date \$438 have been released. Dole said Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz has indicated that current plans call for the remaining funds to be released by July 1.

In the letter to President Nixon, the Kansas Senator said:

These funds are greatly needed in rural America.. Our farmers have doubled their use of electricity in the past seven years and it is expected to double again in the next seven.

Rural revitalization plans necessarily include the consideration of future rural power supplies and our Rural Electric Cooperatives are the key to the provision of this electric power to rural America.

Dole cited that REA loans for transmission construction in Kansas are normally made for a period of two years. Due to the shortage of funds, he said, loans are being made for no longer than one year.