



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.-Kans.)

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 225-6521

Joe Reppert Press Secretary

Release: MARCH 30, 1972, THURSDAY

Irrigation Pumps Halted; Dole Writes FPC Chairman

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 30 ---- U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kans.) has asked the Federal Power Commission to investigate restrictions that serve to prohibit the use of natural gas supplies that power pumps for irrigation wells in western Kansas.

In a letter to FPC Chairman John N. Nassikas, the Kansas Senator said he was requesting the investigation in response to a number of letters received from western Kansans protesting the freeze on the use of natural gas for irrigation purposes.

Following is the text of the Dole letter to Nassikas:

Many farmers in southwestern Kansas have contacted me about the use of natural gas supplies in that area to power their pumps for irrigation wells. Apparently, there have been some restrictions imposed on the use of this fuel and I would appreciate an investigation of this matter immediately, as irrigating season is rapidly approaching.

Over the years these farmers have invested thousands of dollars in irrigation wells that are based on the use of this natural gas as fuel. Alternative fuels would be prohibitive.

Your prompt review and consideration of this matter will be greatly appreciated.