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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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APRIL FUEL FOR KANSAS FARM PRODUCTION ANNOUNCED

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Senator Bob Dole said today he has learned that the Federal Energy Office plans to designate 19.5 million gallons of gasoline and 13.8 million gallons of diesel for farm production requirements in Kansas for the month of April.

Dole said the 19.5 million gallon figure is based on U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates of actual farm production needs for the State. "Verification of this figure is being sought from the State," Dole said, "and it is possible that the amount may have to be adjusted some. Also I have asked FEO to re-examine its figures to make sure that they take into account the heavy fuel requirement for preparation of summer fallow acreage.

"I am encouraged by this FEO action," he added. "The guarantee that farmers will get 100 percent of their current fuel requirements is meaningless unless the fuel is there to back it up. FEO's action is intended to make sure that it is."

These gallonage figures will not be included in the allocation fraction established for Kansas for the month of April, according to FEO. "It is my understanding," said Dole, "that the farm production fuel will, in effect, be set apart and reserved for farm production needs, and that an allocation fraction will be established for the remaining fuel requirements in the State. Hopefully, this will make sure that farmers have all they need and at the same time make it possible for Kansans not engaged in farm production to get their fair share of fuel. We have been working with FEO for the last several weeks to establish such a procedure."

According to Federal Energy Administrator William Simon, it is hoped that no state will have less than 90 percent of its certified fuel requirement to fill these other needs during the month of April.