



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RURAL WATER FUNDS RELEASED, \$120 MILLION FOR GRANTS NATIONWIDE

Washington, D. C. -- Senator Bob Dole announced today that an additional \$120 million for rural water district grant funding in Fiscal year 1974 was being released by the Office of Management and Budget.

"We have been working for several months to obtain the release of these funds, since they were first withheld," said Dole. "Now that it's been obtained this should provide a tremendous boost to water district planning and development in Kansas," Dole added. "So far about \$500,000 in grants for Kansas Rural Water Districts has been made during this fiscal year. Kansas' share of this \$120 million could be many times that."

Dole has learned that selection of the water districts to receive the additional grant money this year will be made on a basis of need, under criteria to be published in USDA regulation expected soon.

Congress had appropriated a total of \$150 million for RWD grants in the current fiscal year. These funds were initially impounded by the Office of Management and Budget. Earlier in the year, some \$30 million was released and today's announcement means that the total amount appropriated will be made available for project financing.

Officials of the Farmers Home Administration in the USDA indicate that because of the large number of projects pending, it may be necessary to decrease the grant percentage of funded projects.