



# NEWS from

## U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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### DOLE CRITICIZES NATURAL GAS LAWS

WASHINGTON, D.C.--A series of meetings arranged by Senators Bob Dole and James Pearson and Congressman Garner Shriver began today between representatives of the City of Wichita and 14 surrounding counties in central Kansas and 7 Federal agencies concerning \$625,000 in research funds needed by the City of Wichita.

"With 60,000 jobs directly affected in Wichita and 700,000 people in the surrounding 14 counties affected by natural gas curtailments, alternate forms of fuel and special actions to increase the supply of natural gas are absolutely essential," Dole stated, "and the irony is that under present natural gas regulations set into law by Congress, natural gas from fields under and around Wichita must be transported to other states and not to users in Wichita." Dole has supported and voted for deregulation of natural gas.

Attending the meeting from the Federal Energy Administration was Dr. William Yost, number two man in FEA's energy resource development department. Dole said Yost has promised to study proposals set forth by Wichita representatives and advise them of FEA's activities and funding capabilities at a meeting to be held in Wichita on Wednesday, October 2. "I am highly encouraged," Shriver said, "that Dr. Yost will travel to Wichita next Wednesday to further discuss the City's natural gas proposal after he has had an opportunity to research and evaluate it. The City of Wichita, like all other American communities, is anxious for Project Independence to become a reality. Wichita officials are to be commended for their farsightedness in taking the initiative to solve the energy needs the City and surrounding counties will face until the time America achieves a state of energy independence."

Meetings arranged by Dole, Pearson and Shriver will be held between the Wichita delegation and the Atomic Energy Commission, Departments of Commerce, Housing and Urban Development, and Interior, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and National Science Foundation today and tomorrow.

Attending today's meeting from the Kansas Congressional delegation were Congressman Shriver and the Administrative Assistants to Senators Dole and Pearson. Also attending were C. Kenneth Cox, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, Wichita, Russell Brenner, Federal Aid Coordinator for Wichita, Don Alldritt, Wichita, James E. Meyers, City of Wichita, Jack E. Alumbaugh, South Central Kansas Economic Development District and Fred Suderman, Wi State U.

The City of Wichita has already spent \$140,000 for studies done by Wichita State University and Williams Brothers Engineering Company. Study proposals by Wichita concern short and long term sources of natural gas and alternate fuels to natural gas.