



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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DOLE, BENGSTON, TESTIFY ON KANSAS RECLAMATIONS PROJECT

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Senator Bob Dole and Larry O. Bengston, Salina City Attorney, today told the Senate Interior Subcommittee on Water Resources that the net income for farms located in the proposed Kanopolis Irrigation Unit should be increased by more than \$2.5 million annually as a direct benefit from the project.

The Kanopolis Irrigation Unit, which is part of the Bureau of Reclamation's Pick -Sloane Missouri Basin Program, is expected to provide a major water supply for 20,000 acres of land immediately below the existing Kanopolis Reservoir in Northcentral Kansas. "It also promises to be a significant source of municipal and industrial water supply for surrounding communities, including Salina and McPherson," Dole pointed out.

Legislation introduced earlier by Senator Dole would authorize \$42 million for construction of the project, which includes enlarging the existing Kanopolis Reservoir and constructing gravity-flow canals to carry water away from the Reservoir. The Bureau of Reclamation has indicated a very favorable "benefit-cost" ratio for the proposed project.

Senator Dole has supported the proposed irrigation project since its inception more than a decade ago, and he has called the project "an important job-producing and food-producing" unit for Central Kansas.