



NEWS from

U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 224-6521

FOR RELEASE UPON RECEIPT

Contact: Janet Anderson
Bob Downen

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DOLE ANNOUNCES COMMITTEE MOVE ON KANOPOLIS BILL

Senator Bob Dole today announced that the Senate Interior Committee has ordered reported a bill he introduced last year to reauthorize the Kanopolis Irrigation Unit. The project is part of the Pick-Sloane Missouri Basin Program, and is expected to provide a major water supply for 20,000 acres of land immediately below the existing Kanopolis Reservoir. The legislation will become a part of the "Omnibus Authorization Bill for 1976" and should reach the Senate floor for a vote during late August.

The Kanopolis Irrigation Unit also promises to be a significant source of municipal and industrial water supply for surrounding communities, including Salina and McPherson. Total construction cost of the Bureau of Reclamation Project is estimated to be about \$ 30,000,000. The Bureau suggests that annual benefits from the project will exceed estimated annual costs by about \$ 5,000,000.

Senator Dole has supported the proposed irrigation unit project since its inception several years ago, and recently testified in support of the proposal before the Senate Interior Committee, calling it "an important job-producing and food-producing" unit for Central Kansas. The project has been endorsed by local officials as well as by the Kansas Water Resources Board.