

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 1, 1990

CONTACT: SARA BELDEN
(202) 224-8953

KANSAS ON LINE FOR \$37 MILLION FOR STATE WATER PROJECTS;
INCLUDES DOLE INITIATIVE OF \$4 MILLION FOR
FORT HAYS STATE BUILDING AND
\$1.24 MILLION FOR BRUSH CREEK FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT;
FUNDING INCLUDED IN FY91 ENERGY AND WATER APPROPRIATIONS BILL

WASHINGTON - Senator Bob Dole (R-Ks) announced Senate passage of an appropriations bill which includes \$37,016,000 million in funding for several Kansas projects. Included in the bill is \$4 million for a new physical science building at Fort Hays State University and start-up funds of \$1,242,000 for the Brush Creek Flood Control Project, located in Missouri and Kansas. The FY1991 Energy and Water appropriations bill now moves to a House/Senate conference.

At Dole's urging, \$4 million was slated for a new physical science building at Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas. This building will house the Computing Center and the Departments of Chemistry, Earth Sciences and Physics. The total project is expected to cost \$12 million. The university plans to raise \$8 million through state and private sources.

"Revitalizing Rural America is one of my top priorities, and this will help use get the job done. this high-tech center will be an important new addition to higher education in Kansas. Best of all, this 21st century technology will make its invaluable resources available to students throughout the state," said Dole.

"Once the facility is linked into a regional network and the University's five off-campus centers as planned, Fort Hays State will be a pioneer in long distance learning. Universities nationwide will be looking at our Ft Hays model as the wave of the future."

- more -

- 2 -

The Brush Creek Flood Control Project has been allocated \$1,242,000 million in start-up funding.

"This project is extremely important for both Missouri and Kansas. The disastrous flood in September, 1977, and the heavy rains and flooding in the area in May of this year underscore the timeliness to complete this project. This funding will keep the project on track and assure the Kansas City metropolitan area that it will be soon be protected from future flood damage. Studies conclude that the project will reduce average annual flood damages by 85%," said Dole.

The Brush Creek project has already received \$2.2 million in funding for a feasibility study and preconstruction engineering and design. Total estimated cost of the project could range from \$16.1 million to \$26.2 million.

Also included in the bill is \$31,774,000 million in funding for 26 water projects to be used for construction, general operations and maintenance of several state lakes and other water projects.