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NEWS

U.S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 27, 1992

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MAJOR NEW WATER PROJECT FOR 7 SOUTHEAST KANSAS COMMUNITIES;
\$11 MILLION HELPS BRING RESERVOIR AND
SAFER WATER SUPPLY TO THE AREA

WASHINGTON - KANSAS SENATORS BOB DOLE AND NANCY KASSEBAUM ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT PUBLIC WHOLESALE WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT NUMBER 11 IN SOUTHEAST KANSAS WILL RECEIVE \$4,190,000 IN GRANT FUNDING AND \$3,986,000 IN LOW INTEREST LOANS FROM THE FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION.

THE WATER DISTRICT, ALSO KNOWN AS THE BONE CREEK DISTRICT, INCLUDES THE COMMUNITIES AND THE RURAL RESIDENTS SURROUNDING ARMA, GIRARD, MULBERRY, ARCADIA, COLUMBUS, PITTSBURG AND WEIR. THE PROJECT WILL CONSIST IN PART OF A 540 SURFACE ACRE LAKE AND DAM IN CRAWFORD COUNTY WHICH WILL PROVIDE A SAFE AND RELIABLE SOURCE OF WATER TO APPROXIMATELY 15,000 USERS CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING SHORTAGES IN BOTH WATER QUANTITY AND WATER QUALITY.

"THIS IS AN IMPORTANT BREAKTHROUGH FOR SOUTHEAST KANSAS, A PRIORITY PROJECT THAT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO THIS AREA. I'VE ALWAYS FELT THAT IT IS A BASIC RIGHT TO HAVE READY ACCESS TO A SAFE WATER SUPPLY, AND THAT WILL SOON BE A REALITY FOR THE THOUSANDS OF RESIDENTS WHO WILL BENEFIT THROUGHOUT THE BONE CREEK DISTRICT," SAID DOLE. "THE FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION WAS EXTREMELY HELPFUL IN RECOGNIZING THE DIRE NEEDS OF THIS DISTRICT, AND MADE A LARGE COMMITMENT TO SEEING THE PROJECT THROUGH."

"THE AVAILABILITY OF RURAL WATER IS A SERIOUS CONCERN FOR MANY KANSANS," SAID KASSEBAUM. "I AM PLEASED FmHA WAS ABLE TO MEET THEIR FUNDING NEEDS."

ALONG WITH A \$2.9 MILLION CONTRIBUTION FROM THE STATE OF KANSAS, THE ENTIRE PROJECT WILL BE CONSTRUCTED AT A COST OF \$11.076 MILLION. ADDITIONAL COMMUNITIES HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN FUTURE PARTICIPATION IN THE DISTRICT, WHICH WOULD FURTHER EXPAND THE NUMBER OF USERS WHO WILL BENEFIT.

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