

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE ASKS PRESIDENT FOR CLARIFICATION ON DIESEL ALLOCATIONS FOR KANSAS

WASHINGTON -- With the summer harvest rapidly approaching and diesel fuel in short supply in some areas of Kansas and the Midwest, Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) today wrote to President Carter requesting an investigation and clarification of the Department of Energy's diesel allocation program. Dole said that "the new program is not working in Kansas at this time."

Following is the text of Dole's letter:

Dear President Carter:

On May 11, Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland announced the Department of Energy (DOE) was immediately implementing a federal mandatory diesel allocation program that would entitle farmers and others in the food and agriculture sector to 100 percent of their diesel fuel requirements.

The statement by Sec. Bergland came to fulfill a commitment you made to not allow agricultural production to be disrupted by a shortage of petroleum.

I have been receiving calls from farmers and fuel retailers in Kansas about the shortage of fuel. According to their reports agricultural production is being disrupted in Kansas and relief is not available from any state or federal agency.

Farmers and retailers in Kansas cannot see any change in the supply of diesel since the secretary's announcement. The new program is not working in Kansas at this time.

I would appreciate your checking into this situation and let me know when the allocation program will begin operating in Kansas on an effective level and what procedure Kansas refiners, retailers and farmers need to follow in order to obtain the needed diesel fuel. Your immediate assistance would be appreciated as harvest will be in full swing in Kansas shortly.

Sincerely,

BOB DOLE
U.S. Senate