

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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DOLE RECEIVES POSITIVE RESPONSES FROM EPA CHIEF RUCKELSHAUS --

WILL MONITOR FURLEY SITE; KANSAS IS DEFINITELY IN RUNNING FOR EPA OFFICE

WASHINGTON -- Kansas Senator Bob Dole has received two letters of response from Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Director William D. Ruckelshaus. Senator Dole had written to Ruckelshaus to make sure the new EPA Director is aware of the Senator's ongoing concern about the Furley Waste Site, and to endorse the possible relocation of the Agency's Region VII Office into either Johnson or Wyandotte County.

In his response to the Kansas City office letter, Ruckelshaus said that he and EPA Regional Administrator Morris Kay agree that "it is indeed unfair to consider downtown Kansas City, Missouri, as the only area in which the EPA regional office can be located. In an effort to mitigate this inequity, Mr. Kay asked the General Services Administration (GSA) to extend the area of competition. This action is not only more equitable, it enhances the chances of acquiring more suitable office space at a lower cost.

"I must stress that no decision has been made about the area of relocation. I am confident that Mr. Kay will make every effort to relocate into a facility which will meet the needs of EPA staff at lowest possible cost," said Ruckelshaus.

In his letter responding to Senator Dole's continuing effort to insure that the Furley Waste Site ground water contamination problem in southeast Kansas is properly monitored, Ruckelshaus indicated an awareness of the situation, and said that the EPA Region VII Office would continue to review and comment on all documents.

"I am satisfied with Bill Ruckelshaus' appreciation of my interest in the Furley site, as well as the relocation of the Kansas City EPA Office," said Dole. "I will continue to monitor both issues, and look forward to working with the Director to see that they are properly handled and resolved."