

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE SUPPORTS KANSAS SUPER COLLIDER SITE

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole (R-KS) today wrote in support of Kansas' efforts to attract the Superconducting Super Collider in a letter to Secretary of Energy John S. Herrington. The letter backs Kansas as a site for the project and addresses federal policy with regard to federal investment in the Midwest region. The text of the letter follows.

"As you know, the National Academies of Science and Engineering have received 36 Superconducting Super Collider site proposals for their evaluation. I want to congratulate you at this stage of the process on your dedication to keeping the selection process free from political pressure. The scientific value of this proposed project is simply too important to the nation to be left to anything other than professionals for their review.

"Several competing states are spending enormous amounts of money to promote various proposals. I am certain you share my view that states, such as Kansas, that have worthy projects, but small budgets, deserve equal treatment based upon the merits of their proposals. Your commitment to an independent evaluation by the Academies with primary emphasis on technical criteria indicates your adherence to this principle.

"Additionally, some thought should be given to federal policy with regard to placement of the collider in an area currently facing serious economic difficulties. The wisdom of investing federal resources in those areas such as the Midwest, whose rural, agricultural economies are now heavily dependent upon federal subsidies, is sound. A federal commitment to providing new economic opportunities in these areas would greatly reduce the taxpayer burden now shared by all Americans. I would hope the selection committee would consider this particular issue."

Senator Dole has been working with State officials in an effort to present a well-prepared Kansas proposal. The initial "best qualified" list of sites is expected to be announced in January with final selection of a site to be made in July 1988.

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