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DOLE HELPS K-STATE WIN \$145,237 ELECTRIC CAR RESEARCH GRANT

WASHINGTON -- KANSAS SENATOR BOB DOLE TODAY ANNOUNCED THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY IS AWARDING A \$145,237 RESEARCH GRANT TO KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY FOR RESEARCH ON DEVELOPING ELECTRIC CARS. THE FEDERAL FUNDS, SUPPLEMENTED BY \$108,895 IN FUNDING FROM THE KANSAS ELECTRIC UTILITY RESEARCH PROGRAM (KEURP), WILL BE USED TO PURCHASE, OPERATE, MAINTAIN AND COLLECT DATA ON TWO ELECTRIC POWERED VEHICLES. THE TOTAL FIRST YEAR PROJECT FUNDING IS \$283,567.

SENATOR DOLE AND HIS STAFF WORKED CLOSELY WITH K-STATE OFFICIALS DURING THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS TO FINE-TUNE THEIR PROPOSAL, AND MONITORED THE COMPETITIVE BID PROCESS.

"I'M PLEASED THE ENERGY DEPARTMENT HAS AGREED WITH US THAT K-STATE SHOULD PLAY A BIG PART IN DEVELOPING THIS TECHNOLOGY OF THE FUTURE," DOLE SAID. "THIS GRANT PROVES ONCE AGAIN THAT AMERICA IS LOOKING TO KANSAS AND OUR GREAT RESEARCH BASE TO HELP DEVELOP 21ST CENTURY TECHNOLOGY. NO DOUBT ABOUT IT, KANSAS TALENT, INNOVATION AND KNOWHOW ARE GOING TO BE A BIG PART OF AMERICA'S FUTURE."

AS PART OF DOE'S SITE OPERATOR PROGRAM, K-STATE'S RESEARCH EFFORT WILL FOCUS ON TWO VEHICLES: AN ELECTRIC/HYBRID VEHICLE (EHV), POWERED BY ELECTRICITY WITH A NATURAL GAS RANGE EXTENDER GIVING THE VAN A RANGE OF APPROXIMATELY 300-MILES; AND AN ALL ELECTRIC DRIVE VAN (G-VAN) WITH A RANGE OF APPROXIMATELY 65-MILES. THE EHV, AN ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY VEHICLE CAPABLE OF EVENTUALLY SERVING AS A FLEET VEHICLE AND FOR GENERAL PUBLIC USE ON THE HIGHWAYS OF THE NATION, WILL BE LOANED OUT TO INTERESTED ORGANIZATIONS THROUGHOUT KANSAS, AND WILL BE DISPLAYED IN SHOPPING MALLS TO DEMONSTRATE THE NEW TECHNOLOGY TO THE PUBLIC. THE G-VAN WILL JOIN K-STATE'S CAMPUS MOTOR POOL.

K-STATE WILL REPORT REGULARLY TO THE ENERGY DEPARTMENT ON THE DATA COLLECTED DURING THE USE OF THE ELECTRIC VEHICLES. THE REPORTS WILL BE USED IN THE DESIGN OF FUTURE GENERATION ELECTRIC VEHICLES.

THE KEURP IS A CONSORTIUM OF SIX KANSAS UTILITY COMPANIES (KANSAS POWER & LIGHT GAS SERVICE, TOPEKA; KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT, KANSAS CITY, MO; KANSAS GAS & ELECTRIC, WICHITA; CENTEL ELECTRIC, GREAT BEND; EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC, JOPLIN, MO; MIDWEST ENERGY, HAYS) SEEKING TO ENHANCE THEIR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS. ALSO JOINING IN FUNDING THE PROJECT ARE: KANSAS POWER & LIGHT (\$5,000); ICE CORPORATION, A SYSTEMS DESIGN FIRM IN MANHATTAN (\$2,000); HANCOCK ELECTRIC, A MOTOR REMANUFACTURER IN LYONS (\$2,000); AND K-STATE (\$20,435). EAGLE-PITCHER INDUSTRIES IN JOPLIN, MO. IS OFFERING TECHNICAL SUPPORT OF K-STATE'S EHV PROGRAM. GOETSCH-IRVINE CHRYSLER-PLYMOUTH IN MANHATTAN IS ASSISTING K-STATE IN OBTAINING A CHRYSLER VAN FOR THE EHV PROGRAM.

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