

Bob Dole



**NEWS
FROM:**

**U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS
SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**MORRIS COUNTY RURAL WATER DISTRICT TO RECEIVE \$5.6 MILLION;
AREA USERS TO RECEIVE NEEDED WATER AFTER DECADE OF WORK**

WASHINGTON - SENATORS BOB DOLE AND NANCY LANDON KASSEBAUM (R-KS) TODAY ANNOUNCED THAT THE FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION HAS GIVEN INITIAL APPROVAL FOR BREAKTHROUGH FUNDING OF \$5.6 MILLION FOR THE MORRIS COUNTY RURAL WATER DISTRICT #1 THAT WILL CULMINATE A DECADE OF EFFORT BY AREA FARMERS, RANCHERS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO SECURE A SAFE AND RELIABLE SOURCE OF WATER FOR HUNDREDS OF WATER USERS IN A THREE COUNTY AREA.

THE FUNDING SOUGHT BY DOLE AND KASSEBAUM WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE FMHA AND AREA USERS, AND WILL ALLOW THE WATER DISTRICT TO LAY 240 OF MILES OF WATER LINE TO AREAS THAT HAVE BEEN IN CRITICAL NEED OF FRESH WATER FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS. THE FUNDING IS EXPECTED TO RECEIVE FINAL APPROVAL BY FMHA OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON LATER THIS WEEK.

"FOR OVER A DECADE, THIS AREA OF KANSAS HAS EXPERIENCED A CRITICAL NEED FOR A FRESH AND SAFE SOURCE OF WATER. AREA FARMERS, RANCHERS AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES -- SOME WHO HAVE BEEN HAULING WATER BY TRUCK DAILY -- WILL NOW BE ABLE TO RELY ON A NEW PIPELINE SYSTEM THAT WILL BRING FRESH AND CLEAN WATER DIRECTLY TO THEM, FOR DRINKING AND FOR LIVESTOCK," DOLE SAID.

THE WATER SYSTEM, WILL BE FINANCED BY A COMBINATION OF GRANT, LOAN AND LOCAL MATCHING MONEY -- \$2,332,300 (LOAN); \$3,076,300 (GRANT); AND \$192,500 LOCAL USER MATCH. AT LEAST 350 INDIVIDUAL USERS IN MORRIS, GEARY, WABAUNSEE COUNTIES WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE DISTRICT. IN ADDITION, THE CITIES OF ALTA VISTA AND DWIGHT WILL PARTICIPATE, AND WHITE CITY HAS ALSO INDICATED INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING.

"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."

DOLE AND KASSEBAUM INTERVENED WITH SENIOR OFFICIALS AT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION IN AN EFFORT TO SECURE FUNDING. THE KANSAS SENATORS ALSO WORKED CLOSELY WITH MEMBERS OF THE MORRIS COUNTY RURAL WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

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