

Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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HARLAN COUNTY RESERVOIR

DOLE CALLS FEDERAL OFFICIALS TO HIS OFFICE

WASHINGTON - Following up on constituent input from last week's Kansas town meetings, Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas) today called top officials of the Army and its Corps of Engineers to his Capitol Hill office to discuss "the immediate needs and long-term plans" for the Harlan County Reservoir.

Senator Dole recently convinced the Corps to release water from the Nebraska reservoir in order to provide desperately needed irrigation for drought-starved crops along the Kansas/Nebraska border.

"I welcomed the input from the good folks in Norton, Phillipsburg, Concordia, Belleville, Courtland and the other communities affected by the Harlan County Reservoir and the federal policies that determine its operations," Dole said.

"I promised that I would take the people's concerns right to the top, to the officials who will be charting the future course of the Bostwick Irrigation District -- that's what today's meeting was all about. We had a good, informative meeting, discussing such issues as water levels, irrigation and expanded access to the reservoir for recreation purposes."

Meeting with Dole were Roy Gardner of the Office of the Army General Counsel, Steven Dola of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army, and Colonel Hugh Boyd and Richard DiBuono of the Directorate of Civil Works of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The group discussed actions currently being taken to account for the needs of recreational users of the reservoir. Nancy Dorn, assistant secretary of the Army, Office of Civil Works, is currently in Kansas, working with the Corps' regional office and the Bureau of Reclamation on a coordinated, long-term management plan for the Harlan County Reservoir.

"No doubt about it, the people of Kansas have a real stake in the long-term viability of this critical resource," Dole continued. "With all of the players at the table, from farmers to recreationists to federal officials, I am confident we can map out the most judicious use of the reservoir for the benefit of all concerned. I am pleased by the cooperation my office has received so far from the Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation. We'll continue to work together on this important issue."

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