

SENATOR SAVAGE: Mr. President, this Legislature has already spent around \$70,000 in investigating this situation and we paid a man by the name of Kubik quite a little bit of money to come back with the report that N.P.P.D. and L.E.S. didn't get along with each other. That's about all we found out from that \$70,000 that we spent and I would like to give them a little bit more time to see if they can't get to be more friendly and, therefore, I support the kill motion of 729.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Dick Lewis.

SENATOR R. LEWIS: Mr. President, I have an amendment up there and I would hope that perhaps Senator Lamb would withdraw his kill motion. I might explain what the amendment is.

SENATOR NICHOL: I think we had better stick to the kill motion, huh?

SENATOR R. LEWIS: Well, Senator Lamb knows what my motion is and I think he approves of it and I'm not sure whether he wants to withdraw his kill motion at this time.

SENATOR NICHOL: Are you asking the question?

SENATOR R. LEWIS: I'm asking him.

SENATOR LAMB: Well, Senator Lewis, I think your motion is to sell public power and I think we should consider that under a separate bill. Maybe we should have a hearing under that bill.

SENATOR NICHOL: Yes, sir.

SENATOR MILLS: Mr. President, I wish that you had let Senator Lewis elaborate because it certainly would affect how I'm going to vote on the kill motion.

SENATOR NICHOL: I didn't rule him out of order. If he wants to talk, he may.

SENATOR R. LEWIS: Am I free to talk on this, Mr. President?

SENATOR NICHOL: Yes, sir.

SENATOR R. LEWIS: In the course of working with the problems of public power which I've been involved in the problems I think, for several years. We did a study two or three years ago using the states of Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska, I'm sorry, New Mexico, as opposed to Nebraska and reviewed the rates and we took our figures from the Federal Power Commission Reports, reviewed the rates charged for a \$100,000 residential rates in those states and we did use those because they have a real minimum of hydro power and we found that in those states, about eighteen plus percent of their gross revenues went to taxes in the local political subdivisions and the rates as opposed to rates in Nebraska compared very favorably. Sometimes they were a bit higher and in a case or two they were lower and so we then reviewed the amount of taxes paid in Nebraska by the two major power companies and the constitution says that they shall pay five percent of their gross revenues. However, that is based on old capital expenditures or capital investments which have since been depreciated so that it amounted to about less than two percent of their gross revenues. So I'm not being facetious here. I think my motion says that we shall instruct the Executive Board to initiate proceedings to sell these facilities to private industry and put the facilities on the tax rolls and I think this would resolve a lot of our