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FLOOR DEBATE

April 4, 2006

LB 48, 1249

that's where LB 48 came from. LB 48 ran aground last year. In the debate from last year, I heard one good point from Chris Anderson, the city manager in Central City who said, I don't want to go to the PSC to service a new ethanol plant, even though they're beyond my city. They're not going to be served by anybody else. We're the only one who can serve them. We shouldn't ask the PSC for permission. I said, okay, that's reasonable, and I took out all of city regulation. There were three ideas; this year, we're down to two. They came from no one other than me. Now since that time, some people have moved to that position. The investor-owns have moved to say they can live with that. That doesn't mean that we won't back to wars after this. This is just a set of neutral principles that, as Mike Foley says, you just do this when you regulate a monopoly. It's what we do. Once you do this, you go back to let these wars continue. But you're at the ending place of standard practice regulation. Are there any other questions?

SENATOR BROWN: Yes. Senator Synowiecki just raised some questions about rates. Does this...

SENATOR LANDIS: Yeah.

SENATOR BROWN: ...impact rates?

SENATOR LANDIS: That's, by the way, been in the public argument for two years, and there is not one whit of evidence to support it.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute, Senator Brown.

SENATOR LANDIS: There are claims, but there is no evidence. There is no indication of what the value is, how it will be transferred, and whether it's being subsidized and how that works. Now if that's the case, wouldn't we have a little bit of math, because you know it's not as if MUD doesn't have some money for numbers. They've made the claim; there isn't a single piece of evidence, and let me ask you if you've been given one that says where the higher rates come from, and why. Anybody got one for two years, with a company that's got millions and millions and millions of dollars and a very good technical