

May 3, 1979

LB 461

SPEAKER MARVEL: One minute.

SENATOR SIMON: I have ten minutes, do I not?

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have one minute on the ten minutes.

SENATOR SIMON: Thank you Mr. President. Of building a plant to take care of the peak demand when in fact if you could utilize some other mechanisms of load management you wouldn't even need it. All of these things should be considered, none of them have. I would merely suggest in closing my opening remarks, NPPD has failed to negotiate on this bill. NPPD has failed to even begin to address this issue. We have had meetings with them. I made the offer to them. Senator Kremer will verify this, Senator Beutler will verify this. We asked them to come in with amendments. We asked them to come in and explain their objections. They could not, they would not. They were merely opposed to the bill. I extended the invitation, I said meet with me, meet with the staff that drew up this bill, express your objections. They said we don't understand the bill. We don't understand why the need is there. I said come in, we had a special meeting at that time, I expressed those comments to them. Senator Kremer held it over for a week. I have gone along and gone along and gone along with the power industry, asking them for comments, asking them for criticisms and they have presented nothing substantial. The bottom line is this. NPPD has lied to the committee. They have lied to the introducer and I can not think of another word to use. When I mentioned this to Senator Kremer he said...

SPEAKER MARVEL: Your time is up.

SENATOR SIMON: He said, in closing, that that probably wasn't to bad a choice of words. I don't mean to put him on the spot but NPPD has not been candid, they have not been straightforward they oppose the bill and they have had not justification or rationale for opposing it. I would suggest that this bill is a reasonable bill and should be brought to the floor.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Now we are on limited time this afternoon. I would appreciate having points made as briefly as possible. Senator Fowler, do you wish to be recognized? Then Senator Beutler and then Senator Wesely.

SENATOR FOWLER: I rise to support Senator Simon in his effort to bring LB 461 to the floor of the legislature. I think that he has outlined very well some of the history of the fights