

answered. But in the past the power districts and the Power Review Board have kind of slid over some of these major issues, the fall out on that comes back to this legislature where we have to enact legislation to take care of local problems, pass resolutions dealing with certain aspects of construction and so on. So, I would support Senator Simon's effort to bring this bill before the floor of the legislature. I think that it is an important step for power plant accountability.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature. I am on the Public Works Committee and sat through the committee hearings on this bill and of course voted on the bill. To give you a little more background on what happened in committee, we listened to the industry criticisms of the original bill. Then we went through a series of meetings, the result of which were the adoption of some committee amendments by a six-two vote which virtually struck every section of the original bill and we came down to what was in effect a radically diluted bill from what Senator Simon brought to us originally. Now you may be inclined towards Senator Simon's original bill or you may be inclined towards the diluted bill, but I did want to make you aware that the bill, if you chose to bring it up, would come on the floor with a very extensive set of committee amendments attached to it and you would have your choice. But, it is a little surprising to me that as diluted as the bill was it did still fail to come out of committee, the vote was four in favor and three against and Senator Kremer chose to abstain. Senator's Vickers, Cullan and myself and Wesely voted to bring it out. Parenthetically I would say that I think next year I am going to propose a rule change with regard to bringing bills out of committee. It does seem to me that when all of the members of the committee are present and in that situation, a majority vote to bring it out, where there are eight members of the committee for example such as in Public Works and four vote to bring it out and three vote against it, in that situation the bill should come out. I might mention that the general effect of the bill should you chose when it comes to the floor to adopt amendments either submitted by the committee or by individuals, we basically set out criteria which the Power Review Board would have to consider in each case in approving applications for the construction of generating facilities. The Board has to make findings with regard to the duplication of facilities, with regards to finding if the plant is designed to meet current and future needs of customers, requiring the utility to make a comprehensive determination of the customers energy needs, and requiring a finding that the plant is an economically