

that specific point by Senator Beutler the other day, so I asked Lincoln Electric System to send me a letter and I have just distributed a copy of that letter and I will read the underlined portion of it. It says, "The points raised by the utility representatives at that meeting, (meaning the meeting of April 17th), should be considered from the standpoint of whether they can...whether they help clarify the Power Review Board's decision making process so that it does not contribute to challenges and lengthy litigation." Challenges and lengthy litigation is exactly what the main objection to this legislation was from the part of the power industry. Now, the very lead off point made by Nebraska Public Power District says that anything of this magnitude needs a summer study. It needs a study whereby the Legislature and the Public Works Committee and the Power Industry can get together and write the very same proposal but write it in such a way that it is a constructive proposal that they can all live with and we do strengthen the hand of the Power Review Board. But, lets do it so that we are not destroying the ability of the Public Power Industry to meet the needs of the State of Nebraska. Thank you very much. I recommend that you wholeheartedly not vote to bring this out.

**SPEAKER MARVEL:** Senator Vickers then Senator Cullan.

**SENATOR VICKERS:** Mr. President, members of the Legislature. It seems as though as we are having a Public Works Committee hearing right here on the floor of the legislature today. Even though Senator Simon, my good friend Senator Simon has got a bill that would put some teeth in the Power Review Board and I certainly think that is necessary in light of some of the things that have been brought to my attention within the past month regarding the Gerald Gentleman Station in Sutherland and the way that it was operated in the building of that facility, I'm going to have to oppose bringing this bill out. I, as Senator Beutler indicated earlier, I have been on the side of LB 461 throughout the time that we were having hearings on it and amending it. The reason that I am opposed to it at this point in time is that since these questions have been brought to my attention, since it is late in the session, this bill is not going to get operated on this year at any rate. It seems to me that we need this bill so that we can, in the committee, so that we can perhaps put some more teeth into it, in specific areas. It is very clear to me that what the power industries want, and what the rate payer of the State of Nebraska needs is entirely two different things. My good friend Senator Kennedy indicated that we need to have hearings on this type of legislation. I would thoroughly agree that we do need public hearings. But, I