

construction of the narrows it will without a doubt, make it possible for Nebraska to participate in the operating criteria of how the project is operated. As I understand it we have been promised that. Number two, the time may come after this that we may want to talk about the compact itself between Colorado and Nebraska as it relates to the South Platte River, not at this point, but it would allow us to take a position on the stipulations that would be related to the compact. Number three, if projects like this in the past, and they have demonstrated that as water from the South Platte River is applied to the land in this irrigation project there will without a doubt, we believe, be return flows back to the Platte River that will get to the state. It may take two or three or four years for this to happen but we believe that it will provide for return flows that will be of great benefit to our state as water in the South Platte then would be more constant and be there also for our use. And by the way, I might say there is only one ditch that has a priority use of the South Platte River water and that is the western ditch and their right will be protected. My number four point is this, that Colorado has long ago said that we are going to need the water that is in Colorado and if this project is not built to our other projects that will be addressed by the State of Colorado and they are not as close and as downstream to Nebraska like this one is. If we lose this one I would believe we would have very little chance to get any benefit out of some of the other Colorado projects related to the South Platte River. Last of all, let's talk about flood controls. We know that Nebraska has been involved in some of the floods that have come through the South Platte and they have done damage in our state. The project itself does have a flood pool of something over four hundred and seventy-five thousand acre feet. If this flood pool is built, and it probably will be, then the flood water will be retained and be released to a degree that we can handle it here in the State of Nebraska. So in brief review, there will be five distinct advantages for Nebraska, at least that is the opinion that I think we ought to address. I move, Mr. Chairman, adoption of the resolution.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Wesely, do you wish to speak to the resolution?

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Members of the Legislature I am a cointroducer of this resolution and with that I would say that certainly there are strong arguments in favor of the resolution and in favor of the project, otherwise I would not have signed it but since that time a lot of information has come to my attention concerning that project and concerning the controversy involved. Point one is this. As