

the committee amendments contradict some prior law. So what I am seeking to do is simply put into the statutes what everybody I think has agreed is the fair federal share if we are going to proceed with this project. I am saying basically that we require that 13 million dollars in federal funds be available before we take off on the project. Let me remind you what we have not done on this project with regard to the fiscal controls. The way the bill is right now we could spend 1.3 million dollars for planning, even though the project may never be forthcoming. The way the bill is right now there is no control with regard to the amount of money that the participating states would put in with regard to operating costs. The way the bill is right now there is no control over the amount of money that the participating states would be required to chip in with regard to construction costs. No control, no fiscal control over any of these areas and in addition no fiscal control over the amount of federal funds which we would require. So with this amendment I am asking you to adopt at least one of the four fiscal controls that we should have on the bill. Adopt the amendment which would say that a minimum amount of 13 million dollars must be contributed by the federal government before we go further into the project. I think that this is everybody's understanding at this stage anyway. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. Chairman, members, I was going to start out by saying I'm sorry, but I guess I am not really sorry that I am going to oppose the proposed amendment suggested by Senator Beutler. Senator Beutler, I will agree with you to some extent that we need to be pretty sure that we are going to have some federal funds committed to this project. However, I feel that at this time an amendment that some of us have put together will come closer to doing, in a reasonable way, what you are attempting to do. First of all we have been told very clearly that there is going to be no federal funds until such time that Nebraska takes some leadership and provides some money. Now the amount of money that we have been talking about that Nebraska would appropriate plus what is being raised by the industry itself is going to be sufficient, I believe, under the present law to satisfy those that are going to bat for us in Washington. Another problem that I have with the Beutler amendment is the number itself. There is no way, I don't believe that we could tie our activity and what we do to what the federal may do, 13 million, 14 million, 15 whatever it may be. We don't know what they are going to do. I don't know if that appropriation will be made at one time or over a period of years. Depending upon what we do. I think the amendment that is on the desk will demonstrate responsibility on our part. Senator Beutler, I just have the firm conviction