

is in the area where asked for the control area to be established controlling groundwater development. Without my amendment, I don't believe that the situation in the Nebraska sandhills or other areas in the State of Nebraska with groundwater development is or will possibly be affecting the surfacing water in the area. A couple of examples of those would be the wet meadows in the Nebraska sandhills, the Dismal River perhaps, or a good example close to my district, in my area of the state is the Red Willow Creek. The Red Willow Creek, the headwaters of the Red Willow Creek are close to the large development that many of you read about in the papers that Prudential Life Insurance Company is developing in southwestern Nebraska and as a use of this groundwater increases many, many people in those areas are concerned about how the stream flows that their cattle water from, and the wet meadows that they raise their hay on will be influenced. When you are in an area of the state that has several hundred feet of aquifer thickness and the only criteria is a decline, then a significant amount of decline or a significant amount of pollution would have to be introduced in order to degrade the water or to use up a significant amount of the aquifer while at the same time if you reduce the...lower the aquifer by just a matter of a few feet it is certainly going to upset the area as it relates to surface water, as it relates to sub-irrigation of the wet hay meadows and things of this nature. It seems to me that we have come to a point in time where this Legislature should recognize what many people in rural Nebraska already know that there is a correlation between surface and underground water and when we are talking about development of underground water we should take that correlation into consideration. So I would urge this body's adoption of this amendment and once again point out to you that I understand full well that it is a substantive change but a change that I feel very strongly needs to be made and I think that many people in this state do also.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President, members of the Legislature I'm not sure how many people were listening to Senator Vickers other than Senator Ward right ahead of me. Okay, one or two were but as Senator Vickers mentioned this very short amendment here has far reaching implications. Connecting the surface water and underground water is one of the things that the Public Works Committee has been struggling with in the past and will be in the future. It was determined by the Public Works Committee that this bill should not contain this feature. I would invite Senator Vickers to bring in a bill next year which would attack this problem. But to attach it to this bill is going to be counterproductive. I predict that if this amendment is adopted then this bill will fail. This bill will be