

for a purely recreational purpose and that recreation shall be provided to citizens of Colorado and Wyoming, not even Nebraska citizens, and a Nebraska citizen shall give up his land. I think it is unfortunate. I don't think there is any justification for it. We say it time after time, this is a particular special interest bill. I am at the point now where I will say, "Suppose that it were, I think the powers of eminent domain are so critical that if it were not for the fact than an NRD took property, took property, we would not have a point of emphasis in this area." I would suggest to all of you, remember this. It need not be property that is agricultural in nature. It need not be property that is taken for the purpose of a lake. It can be downtown property taken for purposes of building a playground, a hot rod track. It can be taken for a tennis court. It can be taken for any one of a number of purposes. It can be taken for a playground. Maybe that is what some of you think we should do but that is not what I think we should spend taxpayer dollars for. I know that Senator Haberman is sincerely concerned about conservation practices and I don't think that he would want to allow the use of eminent domain to be used for the purposes of building any of these other kinds of projects. Why then should we exclude a single kind of a project? The Oliver Lake project will in no way be diminished for public use. The lake will be available for all the public. The shoreline will be available for all the public. The only difference is, shall the land owned by an individual, owned by a family for many, many years, be condemned to provide scenic background and other purposes for that lake. I don't think, and I agree with Senator Cullan, there is anything immoral if a man who happens to live in an area that happens to be developed by a Natural Resource District from benefiting from that. By the same token many of us have found we have suffered by virtue of a development project. We have talked many times about the need for cooperation in this body. I have made no attempt to try to alibi. I will not alibi a bill as important as one which involves the taking of property that belongs to another friend or another woman for a public purpose. We are going to find as time goes by that there will be increased efforts to take private property, and when it happens to one of us, we are going to complain and complain bitterly. I suggest that we put ourselves in the place of the individual whose property is being taken here today and recognize that it may happen to us at any time. At the present time, and I have used it myself, water can become a sacred cow. Now, ladies and gentlemen, let me say this, you had better understand that the entire issue of construction of projects will suffer if we allow eminent domain to be used in an indiscriminate manner. LB 243 as it is presently drafted and