

Kremer brought it up and it is sure a legitimate question. It has to do with the use of the by-product and the by-product of course would be cooled down water. Under this proposal you could use it for a variety of things and you could move it. What we are going to do on Select File, we talked to some people, is to put some additional restrictions in there so that we're certain that the by-product is used only in that immediate area so that there isn't any question of changing Nebraska water law and transportation of water. So I would urge your adoption of the amendment and advancement of the bill. For western Nebraska and particularly, ladies and gentlemen, for the Panhandle this is the energy source of the future. I can see entire towns being heated. I can see businesses paying a tenth or a twentieth of what they are paying now in heating bills. The gentlemen, Senator Remmers, a number of senators, Wiitala went up to South Dakota and they talked to I think a Ford dealer up there who had cut his energy bill so dramatically it is just astounding with their use and development of geothermal. We have that potential here and maybe we have the potential to see major business developments as a result of this new energy source if we get going on it. This legislation is the cornerstone for development of that new resource. I urge you to adopt the amendment.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, I was happy to hear Senator DeCamp explain the committee amendments do affect the way that we transport water in this state. I was... I just would simply point out to this body that Section 5 of the amendments to LB 708 which become the bill do seem to me to make some major changes in the way that we deal with groundwater in this state. Now I know that various members of this body have raised that issue before. I have talked about it before. I know Senator Schmit has talked about it before, about the fact that ground water at the present time cannot be taken from the overlying land. Now that may or may not be a reasonable use of that ground water depending on your perspective, depending on the way that we look at it. Personally I think that we should look at that situation but I just want to raise the issue that we are making some major changes about the reasonable use of ground water as it relates to the use of the overlying land simply because we are talking about in this case, hot water, and I would hope that this wouldn't be applied across the board for all uses of ground water simply by an amendment out here on the floor. I think we need to talk about this a little bit more and need to understand exactly what we are doing. And I understand from other people, and I think Senator DeCamp mentioned it, that there will be some clarifying language on Select File