

all I would like to say that I do understand what you're trying to do in this amendment, because I agree with you, we should do everything we can to try to promote the use of Nebraska's products and by-products. But I would just ask, based on what Senator Schmit and Senator Rod Johnson have said, do you feel that there is any way that we could assure that we could use only Nebraska products, or that we could certify that they were Nebraska products?

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Well, Mr. President, Senator Smith, if the ethanol plant in Hastings should become productive I would answer your question by saying, in my opinion there is enough corn in the Hastings-Grand Island-Kearney area to supply to your plant, the plant in Hastings.

SENATOR SMITH: Yeah.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Yes. There are no ethanol plants operating in Nebraska, whether there is a corn supply or not. So I would say, yes, let's start this (inaudible) in extreme cases that they can come to this body and say, we have a plant out here in...a mile from Colorado, can we have an exception? Let's chew on it, let's think about it. But I'm going to answer, yes, I think there is.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay, and I would just say that I agree with you as far as Hastings is concerned because I've been there a number of times and had the tour and so on, and they've given me the facts about where the corn comes from. And, indeed, it does come from that area. So I know that in that case it could, but given the concerns that we have for where other plants may be developed, for instance, Blair and that sort of thing, and if you have one close to a line what would you do, how would you be able to certify that, that it was indeed only Nebraska products?

SENATOR HABERMAN: Senator Smith, to be realistic about it there are no ethanol plants, per se, as ethanol plants under consideration at the present time. No funds have been expended. There aren't any applications in, so...and there have none been built. So I don't feel I have to clarify it, but I would say at Blair, there is enough corn in the Blair area to supply that plant.