

because the DEC, as I said earlier, early on said they would not be on site every day. Now they are telling me, after I raised some concerns and some questions about it, they said, yes, well, yes, we will be on site every day. When we add the people, the manpower, and get the funding, we will be on site every day. So I'd say that is also subject to change at a later date, so we definitely need a man on site every day. As I have experienced in soil conservation dams, there was a U.S. Government and federal inspector there every day. There should be no less with this facility, and for these people to have credibility, they definitely need this money to do what they have to do. Other concerns are the fact that the geological study that is being done or being proposed doesn't even call for intensive study, the way I understand it, underneath the building site on the facility. They can go out and do their testing on the site, and there is no call in the proposed study for an intensive study directly underneath the site of the building that will be storing this waste. So I think we definitely need to get on top of this problem. It is a problem in and of itself, not to be confused with chemical and hazardous waste. That will come along later when the U.S. Government decides that we will also store chemical and hazardous waste on the site. Then we can address that problem. Right now, I maintain this is a problem in and of itself, and we should allow this money per Senator Schmit's amendment to finance these local monitoring committees. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Member from the 38th District, Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. I strongly support this amendment. The Conservation and Survey Division of the University of Nebraska has been in existence for many, many years. They have extensive geological information, coring, geological data from every section of the state available for our use. They are capable of doing the things that Senator Morrissey has concerns about. They are capable of helping it to a great extent, the local monitoring committee. The extra money for the local monitoring committee will go a long ways toward giving assurances to that committee that the actions being taken by the DEC, the actions taken by the contractor in building the site, the subcontractor in erecting and doing the design work, are being done to those specifications, that the safety of our citizens is assured in this particular endeavor, and I would urge your support of this amendment.