

into the compact, based on these assurances that if we stayed into the compact, at least a local community would have some say-so and some right to vote. Whether this is the safest site or not, those are other decisions, but, quite frankly,...

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...we owe these people a vote. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Smith, Senator Elmer on deck.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the body, I think it's really unfortunate that in my talk with both sides of the folks that are on this issue, the right of the communities to vote and that sort of thing, that we have a difference in the definition of what we mean by community consent or the community vote. When you talk to the people, they assume that that means they, themselves individually, as citizens of that area have the right to make a choice. When you talk to the other folks, US Ecology and so on, you are finding that they are saying that US...or the community vote does not necessarily mean that, it could have meant the officials and so. And when I visited with, for instance, Rich Paton, I told him I think one of the biggest mistakes that was made was that there was not a very clear definition of what we mean by community consent, that that was not clearly laid out. And he agreed with me totally. But, unfortunately, I think the damage has been done. I think that there has been a total loss of lack...or of trust in this group because of circumstances that have led us to the point where we're at right now and I agree with Senator Kristensen, in fact, I appreciated very much the handout that he presented to us here on the floor. And I had picked out a number of comments that I thought in here were worth mentioning on the floor. One of the things on March the 29th that Rich Paton said was...and I'm sure that these have to be accurate because they would not give names or where it was taken from if it was not accurate. He said, "US Ecology has a plan that will put the facility in an area that does want it." We could go on and on. If you've all got the same copies I have and there are a number of other things that I had picked out which, again, that were different from what other people had indicated to you before this. But one of the things that's very clear is that in the beginning on December the 8th of 1987 when we began with the comments that are on our sheets that we have before us here on community consent, very strongly they were making statements at that time