

May 4, 1989

LB 812

them back to their city, the Kansas City offices and ran calculations, created their own model, and what you have in the second two pages of the handout is the results of that on a very short time frame faxed up here from Kansas City so we could try to get something back to you before this Final Reading. I did highlight the second section because, while all of them are fairly pertinent, the second section in there, the yellow section, says what is for me the most important part, and, basically, it says, the Leo Daly Company, who were asked, by the way, as independent architects, not involved in the original design and construction of the building, but brought in as independents, they looked at those calculations, they made an on-site inspection, and they said Daly Company suggested that the calculations showed that the building was underdesigned and this company now, Black and Veatch, has come in and said we agree with the Daly calculations. So, to my mind, what we have had is a scenario of several different engineers, architects, and people involved in the construction industry, looking at this problem over the last several months, years, actually, and because there was some disagreement among some of the original parties as to whether the building was designed properly or improperly, whether the building was safe or unsafe, that the Leo Daly Company was called in to make an independent study and they did that. There was a question as to whether that would be considered by all parties to be completely objective because of a possible interest in the future operations or future repair project, so we did...that was an independent study and it was independent of the future project, that is, the design of the repair, but just in case, as we pledged on the floor the other day, we'd try another one here, and they come in and also say, yes, the Daly independent study is correct. We agree the building is underdesigned and needs to be repaired. And so my bottom line to you is I feel very comfortable that we have done all the things that we need to do. The building does need to be repaired and however frustrating it might be to us that we are going to be spending some taxpayers dollars to do this, and maybe things could have been done a lot differently some years ago, we have put some safeguards in place, the university has, since the inception of this project back in 1976 to try to assure that nothing like this could happen in the future but, irrespective of that, the most important thing now is to make sure that we have a safe building that can continue in operations and to make sure we have no liability in the state and to make sure that it is safe for the students and the faculty that are there. It needs to be repaired, and the reason