

do not know, I do not know what the final bid will be for the plant, or what the FSLIC, and the FMHA will take for the plant. But at the present time Nebraska farmers are in the running. I don't think that there is a person on this floor who would not agree that if it is at all possible that the individuals who contributed the money ought to be allowed the privilege of acquiring that plant in a nonprofit capacity, in a manner which will not financially benefit any one of the farmers, but which will make it available for the purposes which we have always discussed many times on this floor, number one, the actual production of ethanol. Number two, the development of a facility which can use distressed grain and which can use the cleanings from a clean grain facility so that Nebraska can be come known as the clean grain capital of the world. Number three, the development and utilization of the by-products that will result from the distillation of ethanol. Perhaps also the utilization of even some source of energy in the distillation process such as solid waste or some other entity which might not be coal. It would appear to me that this is a very rare opportunity. And I did discuss with several members of the ethanol authority today whether or not, if I came back to them and requested funding for this plant, if they would consider it. Both...in all three instances I was assured that they would certainly do anything that was in the interest of Nebraska farmers. Now, I would hope that their conclusions and mine would be the same. I do not know whether we need to adopt Senator Johnson's amendment today or not. But I do know that we need to address the issue. And I would just suggest this, as you note from the letter which I have passed out, the offer must be resubmitted to the FSLIC by May 23, 1989, one day before adjournment.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: We do not have that much time to negotiate. I would hope that regardless of how the vote goes on this amendment, and I am concerned about voting or because someone will say, Schmit's got a vested interest, I do, along with every single farmer in Nebraska, and ever single other person. But I would suggest that we ought to, all of us, get together who are interested, Senator Rod Johnson, Senator Baack, Senator Schellpeper, all of those who have spoken, Senator Coordsen particularly because he has experience with the checkoff boards, and discuss what we think we can agree upon in the way of language which would make it possible for the ethanol authority