

5 million. We don't know if they will...they might be in the tens of millions or hundreds of millions and, to that extent, I am willing to go along with the proposal as outlined by Senators Landis and Coordsen and Warner and accept their amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Landis, back to you.

SENATOR LANDIS: Senator Schmit, thank you very much. That's an ample answer and I appreciate it the expansion of the notion. Since there is basic agreement, I would hope that perhaps we can get to a vote on this relatively quickly. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Coordsen, did you wish to speak on this?

SENATOR COORDSEN: Very briefly, Mr. President, in that the way the bill is drafted all of the money in the fund is spent as a demand...as a demand is made for it. If there isn't money in the fund to pay the claims that are made, then the claimant, as I understand the bill, simply has to wait. The changing from three to five, I think, would perhaps accelerate the process and give a little bit more of a safety mechanism for the small operators that are having the problem out there that they wouldn't have to wait and perhaps try to find other sources of money to cover potential cleanups while they were waiting for money in the fund to accumulate to help them make their cleanup. So that was my philosophy in signing onto this amendment. I think that whole bill would work just a little bit better with a higher threshold and a higher ceiling. And I would like to give what remaining time I have to Senator Morrissey.

PRESIDENT: Senator Morrissey, you have almost four minutes.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Mr. President and members of the body, right now the way the bill reads when the fund reaches five they shut it off, then they let it fall clear down to two which Senator Landis would change to three and then they will collect it back up again only to three, the way it reads now. Senator Landis would change it to five. So the way it is now we collect five, let it drop to two, and then kick it back up to three. Senator Landis would change it to collect five, let it drop to three, kick it back to five again. Because of the unknown of this situation, I don't...I feel we cannot allow this to be underfunded when we start. As we get a feel for this as we move along then we can change these numbers. But