

develop the clean grain concept, to develop the utilization of by-products which were considered by the passage of LB 587 and to develop the ownership through a nonprofit public corporation as I have outlined in the proposal which was offered to FSLIC. It is not unusual, of course, for us to propose that a public corporation own this plant. Nebraska is the state of public power. It is a state which prides itself upon public power and the public ownership of power. It's sort of interesting that when I proposed selling the private...the public power entities to private investment that I was informed emphatically and repeatedly from many aspects that I was making a serious mistake. Therefore, it seems to me that since ethanol is power, ethanol is energy, and a few years ago we encouraged the public power districts to become involved in the ethanol industry, therefore, it is...it follows that the ownership of that plant by a public group would be a very likely step. Third, you might want to know where are the bids now, just what is the status of our bid and what is the status of the rest of the bids? I think it's important that you understand this. Our bid is the one which has put us in as one of the three final bidders. The FSLIC, as I understand, and John DeCamp as the lawyer for the firm, is no way a part of the bid except as a lawyer for me and this entity because he did it for me as a friend, the position, as it stands at the present time, is that the FSLIC has stated our bid, which was a cash bid and caused them to consider us as one of the final three bidders, is now subject to renegotiation. The terms which have been presented to us, and John has spoken at length with the FSLIC, the terms which have been presented to us, we think, may not make it feasible for us to buy the plant. It may not be economically feasible under those conditions. Therefore, we will make a counteroffer of something which we believe is reasonable, workable and financially has a chance of success. That bid may or may not be accepted and it may or may not require the assistance from the Ethanol Authority. We do not know now at the present time. More important than that, we are at the present time negotiating with several public entities to see if it's possible to put together a joint venture of the farmers of the State of Nebraska who have contributed the funds, whether they use any of the funds at this time or not, and some other public entity. We have discussed this with several entities at the present time. I'm not going to reveal those at this time but I just want to say they are involved in the public area and they are public entities. We want to see if it's possible, if it will be feasible, if it's desirable, to put together a group of entities in that manner that might be able