

to purchase the plant. I cannot commit that any of these will, in fact, want to participate, in the final analysis. But we are discussing the issue and there is a considerable amount of interest. And at least one of the entities has, by resolution, in the past indicated a substantial interest in development of ethanol as a new power source. I have also visited with a group of individuals who are interested in developing the solid waste and other forms of throwaway articles, such as used tires, as a source of energy to provide the BTUs necessary to provide the distillation that has to take place at this plant. There are many other aspects of this area that need to be developed, that will be developed, if and when this bid is successful. I believe that in this instance this kind of research, this kind of development can best be handled through the type of public offer which we have made and the type of public corporation which we have put together. I want to emphasize again, because there are those...and it has been explained to me, very frankly and very honestly and very up forward, there are those who take a negative point of view of this situation because myself and John DeCamp are involved in it. I have said earlier, John DeCamp has no personal involvement except that he has worked for me as an attorney on this plant. Secondly, my involvement is only to the same extent of any of the farmers involved and that is the amount of my own checkoff funds that were contributed to the project. Third, I want to point out again, that if and when the bid...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...is successful, I am willing to withdraw from active leadership of the rule and let someone else take it over. But, at this point, it so happens by virtue of the past year's effort, I am the only one who is in the position to make it happen if it can happen at all. Do I need the amendment? I do not know. We may not even need the Ethanol Authority's help if we get the bid. By the same token, I believe, perhaps, the Ethanol Authority should have the flexibility to make the final determination as to how much they want to become involved and...no matter who ends up buying the plant. I think that if I had...if I had my druthers, ladies and gentlemen, if this were the early part of the session, I would prefer to hold off on this amendment rather than to ask you to adopt it at this time. I would prefer to hold off and, if necessary, bring in a totally new bill. But we are short of time and I would...at this time I'm telling you, I do not know...