

out one very interesting fact, but late one Thursday evening at eight-thirty when we were finishing our hearing, Mr. Kuzelka came in and testified in a neutral position. I was going to read his testimony, but I won't have time for it. But he says, just like Senator Schmit said, we have plans, we have studies, we have strategies by the hundreds gathering dust that are called plans. LR 27 is not intended to be any kind of environmental statement. It is intended to state that Nebraska does have a state water plan in place put in here by the policy makers in this Legislature, that has been put in by study and statute, carefully, over many, many years. I believe Nebraskans should control Nebraska's water and water rights, not the federal government, to the greatest degree possible. The federal government should recognize water uses and rights that have been in place, in many cases for more than a century. LR 27 could help to that effect. I do believe that 27 is a plan promulgated by the Legislature for the use of water through allocation of water rights. I feel that the body of law we live under and our current water...the body of law that we live under is our current water plan. I agree it is not comprehensive, depending on how you define it. Whether you agree that it is a plan or not seems to me in whether you like or dislike our current law and policy that we, in this body, have put into effect. We merely wish for FERC to recognize our water law, and if their operating conditions are going to alter or abridge that law, and it needs to be changed, that they use this body or a legal mechanism that are already in place for them to use in order to change that law. And I would also tell you that by raising this to the floor does not pass this resolution and that...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR ELMER: ...we are willing and ready to change some of those words that I've heard over and over such as comprehensive, such as plan, and present to the federal government and the FERC a reason for them to try to work within our state law, our water law allocations and to, if necessary, ask for changes like we have already done. Help us to get LR 27 to the floor so that we can make the changes necessary, so that we can make our statement, so that we can get on with the relicensing effort that we've spent millions of dollars on and that the crane trust...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.