

one of the groups involved could buy and sell this state if they so choose. But, again, the burden of the facility is on the people in one area. But some of the burdens are also spread out among many of the citizens in all the states and also the citizens that live or reside in your district. Recent happenings and allegations that monies have been misappropriated and misspent affect each and every citizen in your district because the money that allegedly was misappropriated and misspent, where did that come from? That money came from the ratepayers of the power companies. Who are those ratepayers? They are your constituents. I can envision many citizens in the five-state region questioning their power companies on why they allowed this to happen. Now we have many people saying that this incident is just a glitch in the process, that we need to continue to move on, that it's our duty to establish a receptacle for this waste. It's our responsibility. But those people that are saying, let's move on now and not stop and take a close look at this are the very same people that were in charge of the oversight that allowed something like this to take place, the power companies going so far as to even in the paper the other day taking credit for exposing this whole issue even though they had access to documents for over...well over a year that would have given them cause to stop and say something wrong is going on. The Compact Commission had the authority and the duty to review all audits which they would then sign, approve and include in the annual report and send copies to the Governor of all the states and the Legislatures. Now if, indeed, they reviewed the audit, they didn't look at it very close because the one from '89-90 had a disclaimer from the auditor on each and every page. So some now are saying they didn't see that. They get a lot of mail during the year and, geez, I just didn't happen to see the audit. I would think if I got a pile of mail four foot tall and I was a director or the commissioner, chairman of a compact in charge of reviewing audits and records, one of the pieces of mail that I might just possibly think about looking at would be the audit report, especially if my duty was specifically to review and okay that audit by the rules and regulations and bylaws of my own committee or the commission that I was on. And if I was the chairman of that commission, as was the representative from Nebraska, I would make sure that I took the time to review each and every detail of the large amount of monies that are being moved through the Compact Commission. The Compact Commission, folks, is basically a bank. Ray Peery, the Executive Director, stated in testimony before the Natural Resources Committee that we're basically a