

trust the DOE? You figure that out.

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Thank you, Senator Morrissey. Senator Rod Johnson, you are next.

**SENATOR R. JOHNSON:** Mr. Speaker, this has been a really long afternoon for a lot of folks, and I am afraid the majority of the body has sort of tuned this issue out, but I went to Senator Morrissey this morning and I approached him at that time about trying to work out our differences over this bill because this bill needs to pass, and I think he and I would both agree that it needs to pass. The problem is we are trying to rewrite the bill right here on the floor with areas that, obviously, we have disagreement on. And I am willing to see 827 advance today. I would prefer not to see the bill gutted, or at least changed at this point. I should not reference the Morrissey amendment as gutting because it does accomplish the ultimate goal, which is to deal with the monitoring committee and deal with the funding for them. Senator Morrissey has brought up several points several times over and over about the Supreme Court appeal. I am willing to give that to the citizens and I am willing to make sure that US Ecology lives under the same rules that we are asking the citizens to live under. So if that is a problem, Senator, that is my oversight, and I am willing to negotiate to put that procedure in place so that we have a level playing field, so that appeals, whether it be against US Ecology or the citizens, goes down the same path. The issue of volume, the major waste generators were in the state last week to meet with Governor Nelson. I met with a few of them while they were here as well. Not one indicated to me or, to my knowledge, to the Governor that they had strong objections or any objections to going to 2.6 million cubic feet for the facility that US Ecology has proposed to build in Boyd County. Now if there is objection to that, I missed it or they did not mention it to me or I have not heard about it at this point. But what I am trying to do, what the committee tries to do through this bill is protect ourselves from having other states, either voluntarily join into our compact, if we allow them to do so, and we are hoping that our commissioners will not allow that to happen, or, too, if federal law comes along and forces other states into our compact, we could say, fine, we will take the waste from those other states if we have to, if the federal government mandates it, but once we reach 2.6 million cubic feet in volume, our facility is closed, and the next cycle begins with the next state in our compact to build that facility. What we are saying