

in order to create the protection that they seem to need, then so be it.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Okay, so within a special protection area too and within the entire NRD, a half cent.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Okay. Thank you. I need to think about that a little more. I was opposed to the original amendment, but this I may be able to support this. I truly think we need to spread the costs out when it is needed and not overburden those, if you want to say who are at fault, you want to bring to their attention that they are polluting the groundwater, I think from our hearings this summer we found out that most of the rural people, most of the farmers are very aware of what's going on. If you watch TV, if you watch Channel 10 and all the commercials for fertilizer and herbicides you will notice how green those companies have become. They've only become that way for one reason, because the farmers are responding to it. Have you seen the one where the farmer's child is going into...running into the kitchen with a glass to get a nice, clear drink of water? That's something that probably catches that farmer's attention and makes them aware that they have to, or more aware that they have to protect the groundwater. Now assigning fault, I do have a problem with that. Who is at fault? Is it the federal government because their farm programs encourage growing one crop and no longer the rotation of crops that we used to use all the time, and thus that causes the increasing need for fertilizer and we pour on more and more, or is it the prices that they get, barely enough to get by so they have to grow more and more, and they have to add more and more fertilizer. Now whose fault is that? Now if you want to look at benefits, who benefits? If we're charging those that benefit, who is it that benefits? Well in the low-level waste issue we're saying we all benefit from the power, the out of state power companies are making millions and billions of dollars on. We all benefit from that, so we want to help them pay for cleaning up their problems. So we figure in that issue, in that system we all benefit. So who benefits from the farmers growing food? Well I think...I ate some food this morning, before I came to work, and I suppose most of you did, have eaten in the last day or two. So probably all of us that eat, and eat very cheaply, mind you in this country, benefit from the results of this farmer going about his daily business and growing food