

in the back of a factory or something, it's pretty easy to identify who's doing it. Go up into Omaha and walk in the Gibson yards, or the railroad yards. Walk behind all those factories and look at the stuff oozing out of the back of those factories. Now if I...if I want to be concerned about who does care about the future of the land and the vicinity right around them, I'll guarantee you I'm going to fall down on the farmers side every time before some corporation. And I am not trying to make the farmers get off scot-free by any means. But I truly believe that any corporation that gets hit by any clean air amendment is not going to absorb those costs because they have a good environmental conscience. Those costs will be pass on, and we all know that. Now you tell me how the single farmer, who might be farming downstream from someone who is a heavy applicator of fertilizer, and you just can't pinpoint it, you tell me how that single farmer is going to pass those costs on. Or you tell me how any of the people in that district, special protection area are going to pass that cost on. So don't...I'm not going to feel sorry for corporations up here, because we...they brought on the Clean Air Act. It didn't happen just to happen, it was brought on because it was needed. And if Beatrice, or Omaha, or Lincoln, or Tecumseh have to help pay for some groundwater quality programs that they might not have caused, and I have no problem with that. I have no problem with spreading that burden because it is the citizens of Nebraska that benefit, the citizens of Nebraska. And until those cities want to declare that they will drill their wells, to supply their municipal water supply, within their city limits, I don't think they'll complain too loudly either. The groundwater of the state is the responsibility of everyone in the state. If we overburden the special protection area and they cannot clean it up, the state will come in anyway and clean it up. It will be an orphan area, if you will. Plus, there's almost no way to identify where it came from, you have a good idea that the nitrates are coming from run...

(MACHINE MALFUNCTION, NO TAPE OVERLAP, SOME DEBATE LOST!)

SENATOR MORRISSEY: ...but, Senator Beutler, you heard in committee just as I said, we have virgin prairies in parts of this state, never been farmed, never been a machine on it that have high concentrations of nitrates beneath them, some of the water supplies beneath them, never had a speck of fertilizer applied on them. So we do have a real good idea where some of the pollution is coming from, but there is also some that we