

domestic use, and there is no doubt that domestic use should have priority above other things because the welfare of the people of the state is, of course, paramount in having enough good, clean water to drink and operate their households and cook with. I would think it might be appropriate as we discuss this bill to perhaps add some language that makes it clear that if a domestic user or a public water supplier is to get to the point where appropriations for agriculture which are inferior to domestic use do, in fact, come into play and water for agricultural use is somewhat curtailed in an extremely dry period, I believe there should be provisions here that these municipalities in that type of an extreme situation should have on file with the Department of Water Resources a conservation plan that they would put into effect and stringently follow in that kind of a circumstance. Would you be willing to accept such an amendment, Senator Beutler?

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, I'm sorry, I was talking to Senator Horgan.

SENATOR ELMER: My question is, in an extreme circumstance where domestic use might be used to preempt some irrigation supplies because of the priority for domestic use, would you be amenable to an amendment that would require the municipalities who have this instream flow right to at that time put into effect a stringent conservation plan that they might previously have on file with the Department of Water Resources?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, in terms of pure philosophy I would certainly be amenable to such an amendment but I would be amenable to such an amendment on the basis of equity. Let me ask you this. Are you amenable to amendment that would curtail the use of groundwater irrigation users in times of drought?

SENATOR ELMER: I think that you would have to be if that hydrological connection were established for each of those wells that would be affected. And each one has a different circumstance.

SENATOR BEUTLER: What about the wells that are not affected, Senator, that may be in the opposite direction from the well field but may have some connection?