

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you. I am also going to oppose this amendment because I think it opens up the vote to more people that won't really need to have the change to vote on the issue. They are not affected as much as the local county. I think there are some local counties that will accept this site. There are some counties that have nuclear waste power plants at the present time and I think they would accept the site also. So rather than open it up to more counties and to more people to vote, I would move or support the...Senator Dierks's bill, and that we do not support this amendment, and that we go on and move the bill, and let the people of Nebraska have the say-so of what happens to our state. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Madam President and members of the body, I just had to respond to a couple of things that have been said. This issue, nuclear waste and the disposal of it, is not just an ordinary everyday issue. This is a pretty serious piece of legislation. When people complain, you know, about, well, if we give them the vote up there on this nuclear waste issue, they will want to vote on whether they can put a highway through or they'll want to vote whether they can put a power line, or they'll want to vote on whether to bury some cable or some pipelines. That is not what this is about. We are talking about a health related issue that is second to none. We are talking about an issue when placed wherever it has been placed, any of these nuclear waste sites, have provided health problems. They haven't built one yet that hasn't leaked and hasn't caused a problem. Every place we have got these waste sites, there has been a problem with health. And we have tried to get support for a study of the health in the area now so we would have something to compare with in later years, they won't let us do that. Every time we try to accomplish something for the citizens of Boyd County, we get it shoved down our throat. I think that what we have here is an issue that is very, very important. It is more important than a road issue. It is more important than a pipeline issue. This is an issue that involves the health of the citizens of a community. Yes, we think they should have the right to vote. Yes, because it was told that they would have. There is no reason for us to sit in this body and make this decision all over again that they can't do that. They've been refused that right from day one, and yet everybody