

lines? It was just a few years ago, probably 10 or 12 years ago, that the power companies were proposing the Mandan Power Line, but still the pressure got so great that this didn't come to pass, and in those proposals, the opposition said it created health problems. So I could go on and on. How far do we go with community consent? But like Senator Johnson said, this is a state project, not just a Boyd County project, and I think we need to remember that. We also have two nuclear power plants in Nebraska. They are located on the Missouri River. They were built I suppose 20 years ago or so, and we have contained the radio waste particles there. In fact, the water is pumped into the power plant through the reactors to cool the plant, and then pumped on down the river where the cities use it to drink, take a bath in, and all those things. So I am here to say I am going to oppose Senator Dierks's amendment to the amendment and support the Beutler amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Hefner. Senator Dierks, you are up next.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members of the body. I am sorry that more hadn't spoken before I did again, but I just have to answer some of the things that Senator Hefner has brought up. I thought we had it in the record early on this afternoon that nuclear waste is the only thing we are talking about with this vote. We are not allowing anybody to vote on a road, or a power line, or a pipeline. All we are talking about is voting on a nuclear waste site, and I think it is not very difficult if you just examine the issue a little bit that you can determine for yourselves the difference between the health hazards involved with a nuclear waste site and a power line, and I think there could be some with the power line. But this is not that way. This is strictly a vote on the nuclear waste issue. It is interesting to me that Senator Hefner at one time even introduced the legislation to provide for community consent, as did Senator Conway, which he alluded to earlier on today. But somehow or another maybe things have changed. I still think that you vote your conscience and you vote for the protection of the citizens of our state, and this bill would provide some of that protection. There is no way you can equate nuclear waste and the health hazards involved with that to a bridge, road, or a pipeline. There is just absolutely no way you could even put it in the same realm of talking. So I still stick with the fact that I would like the amendment that I have introduced to Senator Beutler's amendment attached, and I think