

environmental impact statements. If it were coming from what I felt was an attempt to make the process work better, I might be a little more supportive of it, but it appears to me to be just an additional step to go through. As I understand, businesses that are involved with any sort of environmental impact already have to go through considerable environmental steps anyway. So it just does not appear to me to be an improvement to the bill and I am not going to support it.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Bromm.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Madam President. I rise to support the Dierks amendment, and I understand what Senator Withem is saying as well, but I don't think in a situation such as this, with the size of company or industry that we'd be looking at, and the sizeable investment that it could entail, as well as the good deal of land that might be involved, that it would be asking too much to ask them to do the best they can to describe the impact that the business would have, the type of business that it is, on the environment and on the ground water and on the surface water, and what they would expect there would be in terms of air quality concerns or solid waste concerns. This would help those who are going to be near the impacted area ascertain how they felt about the proposed business. It would also help those who have an opportunity to object to the application to determine whether or not there is a basis for...that might cause them to file an objection. I don't think it is an impediment. I don't think it's...I think it is just a good requirement that goes along somewhat with notice, only this would put people on notice of what kind of business this is in terms of the environment, the water, the air, and so forth. So I, at first glance, and I haven't had a chance to examine this for very long either, but I believe it looks like a good amendment and I would encourage the body, unless someone could show us why...what's wrong with this proposal, I think we should support it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Bromm. Senator Preister.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Honorable President, friends all. This is the first time I've really spoke on any of these bills, and it is not for lack of interest. I certainly support this amendment basically because I think it's a minimal step to take in terms of protecting the environment and the kinds of potential degradation that could be there. I agree with Senator