

more of a philosophical question. It's not my intent to extend debate to a considerable length. So I'd be willing to answer any questions and would certainly be willing to move on. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Maurstad. For discussion on the Maurstad amendment, Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Madam President and members, I rise in opposition to the Maurstad amendment. I think Senator Beutler and the Natural Resources Committee took the right step when they linked this bill, as it was intended to be, with the other bills that deal with the Job Quality Act. There you will have an outside review, an outside board, a decision to move forward on a major project such as Micron, and you link all of those pieces together and you have a major impact. To not adopt this committee amendment, to support the Maurstad amendment, gives...cuts loose the power districts, and I don't know, I'm not sure what restrictions are in here at all for...well, oh, I see, the 5,000 kilowatts and the load factor 55 percent, so I guess they'd have to meet that...that standard for not more than 5 years. But I don't know quite what that means. But I do know what the other bills mean, that there is going to be an outside review, it's going to be all linked together. The Maurstad amendment broadens the opportunity to utilize this, the committee amendment narrows it, focuses it. I think we need more focusing on our tax-incentive efforts and I would support the committee amendments because they attempt to do that. I'd hope that you will defeat the Maurstad amendment.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Withem.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Members of the body, while I do have some sympathy with the policy direction that Senator Maurstad would like to take us with his amendment, and quite frankly it would, in many ways, return the bill the way back to how it was introduced. I really think this is a policy argument that needs to take place maybe outside of the realm of these three bills. The Legislature seems to be supportive of the idea of passing legislation that would be in response to the current situation. What the Maurstad amendment would do is make this bill applicable to many, many other situations. And while it may or may not be a good policy recommendation, I don't think it ought to be part of this overall package. I visited fairly extensively with Senator Beutler when the Natural Resources