

we're doing away with nondiscriminatory rates. We are discriminating. And when you give the power to the boards of directors of utilities to discriminate, we have to not forget that historically there have been some problems with that sort of thing, members of boards of directors of utilities are known to have connections to certain segments of certain communities, the problem of favoritism arises, the problem of improper connections and improper dealings becomes more problematic, it exacerbates potential problems about who is in charge. You know one of the things that concerns me about what we're doing with economic incentives is that I sometimes wonder if the way we're structuring things now we ever know what the total incentives are that are being given to a particular industry. I mean who's in charge if a utility can just, willy nilly, decide apart from municipal officials, apart from the Governor, apart from everybody else that, yes, this company is worthy of this kind of a discount on electric rates. Should that decision be made independently, regardless of all other factors involved, such as what that company may or may not do to a particular community, whether the particular community wants that company or not?

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And don't forget, some of these power companies represent broad areas encompassing both rural and urban communities. And it may well be that a particular large industry, and there are some large ones that are also undesirable, may be suggested for a rural area, and an urban-dominated board may...may be given incentives that that community would not want them to give. I mean there are all kinds of different kinds of scenarios out there, and we ought to start identifying those scenarios and saying, is this kind of broad, expanded power the kind of thing we want to give? If we do give it, do we want to put certain kinds of limitations on it? Are there certain checks and balances? And these kinds of questions. And there are other questions that I can go into in more detail the next time I have an opportunity to speak, if they are of interest to you. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Preister, on the Maurstad amendment.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Honorable President. I would echo the words of Senator Beutler and also those of Senator Withem. I think that the question that we're raising here should be at