

assessed, can be taken into account when these appropriations for water use are considered. So, basically, what Section 3 does, it tells the Department of Water Resources to hold in abeyance issuing water appropriations for any pending or forthcoming water right requests for the surface water in the state until we have the integrated water management plans in place. And that date, since we're going to address it in the next session, in 1996...1996, would say we're holding in abeyance issuing water appropriations until the first of January of 1997. And many of you have agreed with me on this when I first introduced this bill, and I thank all the cosponsors who did. We have three basic exceptions to this holding in abeyance. There has been a real problem with the pending large requests for appropriations that no structure of any kind for sediment control or farm ponds or anything has been allowed until that has been resolved. So the exceptions to the abeyance are that the Director of Water Resources may grant applications for appropriations for floor control or sediment control that have a permanent impounding capacity that does not exceed 20 acre feet, or for temporary appropriations for public construction that are 5 cubic feet per second or less. Many of the construction projects across the state are near enough to a stream that the water they use for compaction of the road bases and such as that, they just throw a hose in the stream and pump the water and take it out, and that's a temporary use that is negligible in impact. But those have been held up because of these appropriations requests. And it does add a good deal to construction costs and makes little sense to me that they can go 51 feet from that stream and drill a well and use the water anyway, under our current law.

SENATOR HALL PRESIDING

SENATOR HALL: One minute.

SENATOR ELMER: The third is that pending appropriation requests for induced recharge of municipal well fields. And I don't think that there's any problem with what we're doing here, and that, basically, explains the sections of the bill that are my authorship. Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Elmer. Senator Beutler, your light is next on the committee amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Hall, members of the Legislature, let