

On that allowable limit, under provisional limits, under a provisional permit that they use to operate and burn hazardous material, they're currently allowed to emit over 22 million pounds of hazardous chemicals into the air. The people who reside in that area are certainly concerned about the amount of emissions and I'm not implying that they are currently emitting 22 million pounds into the air but legally they could emit up to that allowable limit currently of 22 million pounds. That's a lot of substance that is going to go into the air and is going to, in some cases, go into people's lungs, it's going to go into the adjoining Platte River. If this permit that they're applying for was denied and they were not granted that permit, it certainly seems to me that they would then have an opportunity to say this is a takings, and since there's no definition of takings in this bill or in statute they could certainly legally argue that approach. My concern is that with what Senator Jones is attempting to do there is far greater implication, there is far greater potential litigation and cost to the State of Nebraska just in terms of legal fees and costs than what Senator Jones is certainly acknowledging or understanding is a part of what his legislation would do. I have concerns...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR PREISTER: ...as I know Senator Avery does about the amount of contaminants that are put into the air by Ash Grove. I cite that as one additional example as I did the earlier one with US Ecology. There are other examples that, at some point, I will refer to also. But when you read the list of allowable contaminants that Ash Grove is allowed to put into the air I think it gives one pause, cause for pause in looking at that kind of quantity of what we're doing to the quality of our lives and the quality of our environment, and that I don't think we should be paying people to not do this. That's just good, responsible business to not pollute our environment. Are we going to enact legislation that then causes us, as a state, to pay people not to...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR PREISTER: ...pollute? I don't think that's wise policy. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Preister. Mr. Clerk.