

water that we were withdrawing and the impact it would have. And if you'd like to ask any further questions along this line, I would certainly answer.

SENATOR DIERKS: Yes, I would. Thank you, Senator Elmer. The point that I was making with you is that your current law with the NRDs is doing an effective job, as you see it, is that right?

SENATOR ELMER: Within the framework of what they are charged to do at this time.

SENATOR DIERKS: Well, considering all these things and considering everything that's in 108, we have a 32-word bill that was introduced five years, LB 889, that would do exactly what you're asking to do and still keep the requirements or the responsibility in the hands of the NRDs and not put it under the Department of Water Resources. (Interrupted)...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR DIERKS: ..keep it in local control. (LB) 889 would do that, the very same thing that you're asking. We have today a monstrosity of a bill here to take care of a little, meager problem, like you're talking about, we could do with 32 words, instead of creating another element of bureaucracy, adding three more FTEs, adding another whatever it is, \$10,000 to the budget, creating more staff positions. We could do this very simply with a little 32-word bill. We had it here one time. I guess that I'm still trying to find out what Kansas said about 108. I guess that Senator Brashear had a pretty good response, but...

SENATOR ELMER: Okay.

SENATOR DIERKS: ...but it's...they're saying...

SENATOR ELMER: To continue then on what's going on, there is a negotiating...negotiation team, made up of Kansas and Nebraskans, that are currently meeting. Last time...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I think we're about probably through with the debate on this amendment. But while it's relevant, I wanted to