

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Klein.

SENATOR KLEIN: I'll yield my time to Senator Dierks.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Dierks, you are recognized for five minutes, and I point out, yours is the next light on, so you will have ten minutes total if you need it.

SENATOR DIERKS: That's fine, thank you. The Interim Report of the Nebraska Water Council to Governor Ben Nelson, December, 1994: Governor Nelson, it's in the executive order, says recognize that water is one of Nebraska's most valuable natural resources, and the management, conservation, and beneficial use of ground water and surface water are essential to the continued economic prosperity and well-being of the state. And he goes on to ask that there be a study done, and he appoints a committee to do that. And I look back here on page, well, called page 3, but I don't think...it's about the seventh or eighth page in the back of the book, where...this is a copy of the minutes at one of the meetings, and it says on the top of page 3, there was a discussion by council members of how to reach a conclusion on unregulated conjunctive use, and it goes on to say that Clayton Lukow moved to strike the term "unregulated", Bryce Neidig seconded the motion and the ayes carried. It was suggested that a draft proposal be drawn up, have it critiqued, make a redraft, then propose it to the people. A decision followed and determined...to determine whether a report of a bill should, I think that means discussion, drawn up. The council is reminded that the Governor wants recommendations and a report offering solutions, not a bill. The Governor told his Water Council he didn't want a bill. He wanted a report on the study, and do you know something? There was never even a study done. Beautiful piece of bureaucratic nonsense. The study was never done. Do you know what this book does? It copies a bunch of studies that were done in 1986. Beautiful. Isn't that wonderful? Is it any wonder that our citizens think we do silly stuff down here? And you are going along with this kind of nonsense to put a bill out here that is going to take power away from the local NRDs and give to Michael Jess over in Department of Water Resources to allow them control over the way we irrigate. I am a ground water irrigator and I take great exception to that. I think that's a terrible misuse of justice, and I can't imagine this body would come to this sort of nonsense. It's just nonsense.