

less than a half percent. Nineteen ninety-four and '95 there's zero percent.

SENATOR ELMER: Yes. And I could say in my district, I would say I probably have as many as or more than most districts in the state, nearly six thousand wells in my legislative district. And the cost of energy and the depth of wells, plus the depletion of aquifers, have caused many of the formerly irrigated farms to be no longer irrigated.

SENATOR DIERKS: Well, the situation's somewhat self-regulating, isn't it?

SENATOR ELMER: It is in economic situations like that. And, of course, that's not what this bill addresses in any way.

SENATOR DIERKS: That's all that this bill addresses in any way. We've already decided that it has no affect on the Republican River.

SENATOR ELMER: Oh, no, Cap, we didn't decide that.

SENATOR DIERKS: Well, we decided...

SENATOR ELMER: You said, how much of the Republican River Basin wells would directly impact the river, and I said not very much. Those in the alluvial plane that are within a half a mile or a quarter mile of the river definitely have an impact on that stream. And there are hundreds of those wells.

SENATOR DIERKS: Senator Elmer and Senator Beutler, 1992, the amount of cubic acre feet, or of acre feet of water that was, that was fed from Nebraska into Kansas was 214,000 acre feet. They used 36,000 acre feet, that's 17 percent. In 1993 we put 483,000 acre feet into Kansas in the Republican River, and they used 26,000 acre feet, that's 5 percent. In 1994 we put 288,000 acre feet into Kansas, and they used 72,000 of those feet. That's 25 percent. The rest of that water went into the Gulf of Mexico. Do we have a problem with the Republican River Compact with Kansas? It has nothing to do with what happened in Arizona and New Mexico, has nothing to do with what happened in Wyoming...or Kansas and Colorado. Those are different compacts. The Nebraska-Kansas Compact is not in danger and never has been in danger and it won't ever be in danger. And the Republican