

doesn't disappear. It's not used, it's recycled, reused, passes on, deep wells become replenishment for shallow water aquifers. An irrigated corn farmer that produces 150 bushels of corn an acre, actually takes from that farm, from that acre, 150 gallons of water when he hauls off 15 percent moisture corn, and that water does not go away. It's transported someplace else to be reused again. Somehow, in the 108 debate, we have lost sight of the importance of water, we've lost sight of the structure of priorities of water use, which are all for people. Agriculture raises food, folks, without which we would live...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time.

SENATOR COORDSEN: ..30 to 40 days. Be careful what you're doing.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Beutler, on the Dierks amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Withem, members of the Legislature, this amendment goes to one of the central concepts of the bill and is a good amendment in the sense that it is a discussion of one of the principal difficult decisions in the bill. But, if you do accept the amendment, you are essentially gutting a large portion of the bill and making resolutions of problems like the Republican River problem simply practically impossible. So, I cannot advise you to accept the amendment. The first thing I wanted to do, though, was to be sure that everybody who's interested understood how the amendment would work. I passed out to you, again, a copy...a couple of handouts, those that relate to some of the amendments coming up and to orient yourselves a little bit. This one that says, "Who Controls?" I think will help you regain the perspective that perhaps you had the other day from the discussion and orient you towards what this amendment does. But, the question of who controls and what procedure you follow, has to do with the parties to a dispute; and, you'll recall, that if the individuals or entities are all within one NRD, then the NRD controls. And that procedure is not dealt with in this particular amendment, but rather is left in the bill. If you have a situation involving individuals or entities who are in different NRDs, then all of the NRDs must agree in order to have an action plan. And that particular provision is also not dealt with by the amendment but is left in the bill. The third situation is where you have individuals or entities in an NRD or more than one NRD and then it involves