

use. I don't...let me...let's see, this is Senator...Senator Dierks, would you yield to a question or two, please?

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Dierks, will you yield?

SENATOR DIERKS: Certainly.

SENATOR BROMM: Senator Dierks, in looking at the language of the amendment, I'm trying to understand the thinking behind saying that in all...in all situations where we have a shortage of water and a conflict between ground and surface water or a dispute over interstate compacts or decrees that the ground water users and surface water users would share equally in reducing the water use, are you talking about gallonage when you say share equally? Are you talking about gallons of water, or how are we measuring the sharing, I guess?

SENATOR DIERKS: It would have to be in quantity.

SENATOR BROMM: Quantity, okay. Is it not the case that in different river basins, and certainly within basins of the same river, we have different relationships that cause water to flow or not flow in the stream? You can take a 30-mile stretch, I think, of the Platte River, at least in my area, and you can find some different hydrologies going on that if the flow were impeded it might be...it might be more the cause of the surface water user or it might be more the cause of the ground water user, depending on which stretch of the river we're looking at. And I'm speaking of an area where the Elkhorn comes into the Platte and below that configuration we have the Lincoln well field and we have the Omaha well field and as I'm trying to think of a situation of how this would play out, you know, I guess is it wise policy to say that in every situation we're going to have an equal sharing?

SENATOR DIERKS: I guess my suggestion is this is a more fair approach than what 108 takes...

SENATOR BROMM: Well...

SENATOR DIERKS: ..in that approach that 108 takes.

SENATOR BROMM: Okay, my interpretation of 108 is that who shares the responsibility for the reduction in water is