

you about, and I'm just going to ask them quickly and pass on and see what you think...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Okay.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...about them later. First of all, the word "operation" is now in the statute and throughout it implying I think...not implying, stating fairly clearly that these monies could be used not only to help with the initial capital cost of this kind of project in order to encourage people to be a part or to assist in funding the original project, but it also seems to say that this money can be used as a permanent kind of subsidy for operation of these lines and I think that that's a far more controversial matter. That's just the first thing I wanted to mention. Secondly, I'm having problems understanding, just from a procedural point of view, lines 18, 19 and 20 on page 13, which seems to have a kind of inverted public hearing process, and I would like to give you an opportunity to address that as to why the public hearing would be after they failed to reach a decision, as opposed to before they make any sort of decision, which would be the normal structuring of things. And perhaps there's a good reason for it, but I just wanted to ascertain what that reason was.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Did you want me to respond now?

SENATOR BEUTLER: I did.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Kristensen, would you respond?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Okay, there are two responses I have. The first one is that part of that language in terms of the acquisition and the operation and so on is written to be consistent with the federal law. In other words, their grant monies and their loan revolving funds they have that funnel through speak in those terms of operation, construction and I'm trying to...the other magic words here, what, rehabilitation, improvement, operation or construction. It's done to, in effect, harmonize with what...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...the federal act is so we can make sure that we don't lose any of those funds because we didn't have the