

then we have a two-year time period where we look at what that cost of service should be and have worked with representatives from OPPD and NPPD who think that is is very workable, that this should be something that DEU would look at and certainly would give us all a better idea of the real cost of the program. We also make sure that the new lowering of the cap for those three utilities does not have an increased cost for the other utilities by using some of the cost savings that have...that are present in...that DEQ has now from the program. So, with that, I'll give any remaining time to Senator Janssen and again thank him for making it a priority bill and hope that we'll be able to move it off of General File.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Janssen, you have about eight and a half minutes.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Bohlke, Madam President. A lot of negotiation and work on the part of Senator Bohlke's office on the amendment to be agreed upon. The amendment is actually the bill now. The amendment essentially becomes the bill, would allow the cost of the program to be closely assessed during the year and then the information could be used during the next session to finalize the changes in the funding of the program. I think this is very important because we don't want to end up in a situation which we have found happen in other areas within the department. We in no way want to endanger the clean air that has been associated with the DEQ's examination of plants and so on, and I don't think it will and there have been other...other companies, grain people, petroleum people or whatever, have come to realize that this is a very essential operation also. And I see nothing wrong, I see nothing wrong with the cost analysis of this. I think every department should be accountable for their costs. They should not lose any money, but they should not be able to take this money and use it for other purposes and, by having a cost analysis over the next two years to study this, that they should come up with something workable and at a rate which would not affect anyone in a very harsh manner. And the good thing about it is that the larger users will not be affected by this by picking up any of the additional costs and it would not increase the costs during the next two years while this study is being done. As I said, we don't want something to happen like has happened in the past. If we have a tracking on this and can track it over the next two years to find out what the actual costs are, everyone can live