

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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SENATOR SCHROCK: ...the...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...Senator. Senator Vrtiska, you're next to speak.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Beutler, a question or comment. Few...few answers, please. Senator Beutler?

SENATOR BEUTLER: You bet.

SENATOR VRTISKA: I've been listening to this and, of course, we don't have any trout streams, but it's been my recollection, and I hope you can enlighten me, don't we, under DEQ's rules and regulations, have a lot of controls over a lot of these things that we've been discussing as far as expansion and permits and review by the Department of Environmental Quality?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, Senator. You mean in terms of...

SENATOR VRTISKA: All facilities on whether trout streams...

SENATOR BEUTLER: All.

SENATOR VRTISKA: ...or running streams all over the state. Don't...aren't there a whole group of regulations and rules and enforcement by DEQ to in fact manage? When you're going to expand or build a new facility, you have to get permits, you have to get...you have to go through the whole process. I'm trying to figure out why do we now need to lop on top of this some more legislation that's going to, in fact, it seems, it appears at least, and correct me if I'm wrong, to be actually duplicating what DEQ's supposed to be doing as an agency that's set up by the Legislature many years ago?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yeah. Well, I mean you're absolutely correct that there are a set of rules and guidelines having to do with the construction of these facilities and having to do with having a proper management plan, as you indicated, and hopefully and theoretically a sufficient amount of oversight to ensure that we don't have any significant problem with the environment. Now, up until last year, we, in my opinion, we had a very