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is also very key because frequently the applications come into DEQ but the public isn't always able to ask the questions of the applicant. They're not always able to get their questions answered or have an opportunity for understanding and that's particularly true in the cases where there is no county zoning. So here is someone living in the area saying this helps us to understand what's being proposed. I think one of the benefits of that is that perhaps some of the opposition might even be taken care of once people's questions are answered, once there's some understanding. So I think there's a benefit of the public hearing to the applicant as well. The letter or the e-mail goes on to state: We have several 14,000 unit...14,000 head, I assume hogs, in a finishing unit that were permitted last year and this year that have little disposal area. They have more listed area than what is available. But looking at this in the office in Lincoln, it is hard to tell that maps are altered, manure agreements are lies, and that only these things are what the neighbors may be able to know and tell. So folks in these areas are asking for an opportunity to be able to correct what may be incorrect applications, to correct information that DEQ may have and in a moment we can silence a noisy telephone, but my talk will continue. I especially appreciate, and let me say at this point, God bless Elaine Thoendel and Donna Ziems and Jim Knopik and Bob Warrick and Annette Dubas and all of those rural folks who continue to give up their time and their farm chores to come down to make their concerns known to all of us. And particularly to those of us who have been more receptive to try to address those concerns of those small producers who are very concerned about the quality of life in their communities, the air quality and the water quality. I appreciate the e-mail and the opportunity for those folks to be able to have their comments and to be able to let us know their concerns. But for those that have given up a lot of their time to be here, I especially appreciate their involvement in the process. My amendment is brought on their behalf as well as on behalf of the rest of the citizens of the state who equally are concerned about the quality of our environment. The public hearing is one that is particularly important where there is no zoning and where there would be no public hearing. It is also important in areas where there is a planning commission and a county board who perhaps would have a public hearing, but theirs is different than direct input to the DEQ, the Department of Environmental