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if you dry it and sack it up, most of it could be sold to you to put on your garden. In concentrations it can cause problems and that's what we're dealing with. But properly managed, we're dealing with a safe product. Dawson County I think is a good example. It's the second largest cattle feeding county in the state, and I would bet that 90 percent of the feedlots in Dawson County are within 15 feet of the water table. I don't think we have a water quality problem in Dawson County unless you're talking about high nitrates. And the Central Platte NRD is dealing with that issue through educational programs, and I think they are getting it under control. And even in that case, those nitrates are probably caused by commercial fertilizer and not by animal waste. The objections to the feedlots...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR SCHROCK: ...are mainly odor and it's legitimate, it's a legitimate objection; but I think in rural Nebraska this is something that we should be...expect to take place in our area of the state, those of us who live in rural Nebraska. Certainly I don't escape it where I live and sometimes it can be objectionable, but it's a part of doing business in rural Nebraska. It's an important part of our economy. And quite frankly, I would not have supported interim zoning if I thought we were going to require our DEQ to go out there and also hold public hearings. With that, I'll conclude my remarks and give my time back to the Chair.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this is certainly an issue upon which reasonable people can disagree; but, however, let me ask...let me tell you what I think are some of the benefits of having a public hearing. And I was a little discouraged, Senator Wehrbein, to hear you say that anything under 5,000 animal units was inefficient these days. Because if that's true, then probably more than 95 percent, 90 percent of the operations out there are deemed inefficient today which is a sad note if true. Anyway, somebody said to me when we were talking about public hearings that, you know, it's useless because all these people who are against it come in and it becomes a big emotional show and that's all there is to it. And