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SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. If I could, I'd like to ask Senator Beutler a couple questions.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, Sir.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Senator Beutler, in the dispute or the discussion over this particular dam, couldn't this dam be built the way it was originally designed as not a recreation area, as a flood control dam, and not have all this problem? Why does it have to be a recreation area to close these roads? I mean I'd like to get a little bit more discussion about...about the decision by the county board to not allow them to close these roads to build this. And I heard what you said about recreation.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yeah.

SENATOR VRTISKA: I don't disagree with you, but...well, answer my questions, and then I'll have maybe some other things to add.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, Senator, let me try to answer your question and tell me if I'm not answering it in the way that you...in the way...or not answering exactly the question you want. But one piece of factual information that's good to know about this project is that the two county roads that need to be closed would need to be closed, whether it had a recreation aspect to it or not. So there's no difference there. Does it need to have a recreation aspect? I mean, recreation is never needed in the opinion of some people. But I would argue very strongly, for example, as an economic development tool, Senator, you may have noticed that Inacom is switching their headquarters to some other place in the east coast, and one of the reasons they gave is that none of their managers want to live in Nebraska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Is that because of dams, because of recreation?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, it's about the quality of life. I really think it's about all aspects, Senator.