

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

February 5, 2003 LB 93

SENATOR SCHROCK: That is correct. And I don't know what that threshold is. But I think the extending circumstance would be, are the nitrates still increasing, or are they leveling off and coming down. I think that would also be taken into consideration.

SENATOR RAIKES: Well, the reason I ask that is, I think I heard about an area in Lancaster County, Lancaster, Saunders County, that is experiencing higher rates, higher nitrate levels in the groundwater, so that I'm assuming that they could, at some point, be brought under this provision.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Are you...are you through...?

SENATOR SCHROCK: In response to that, if the NRD sees this as a problem, then they go to a Phase IV program. I don't know if the NRD you're talking about currently has management areas where they have to regulate the timing of when the fertilizer is placed. But that...but they would have to go to a Phase IV management area.

SENATOR RAIKES: Okay. So...I appreciate that information. The rub here, I assume, would be that the NRD or...yes, the NRD, the controlling authorities would say that the rate I can apply is a lower rate than what I think is appropriate. Is that likely to be the conflict?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Right. But if you have a certified crop advisory service that you're using now, and you're following those recommendations, you would probably be in line with anything the NRD would recommend.

SENATOR RAIKES: And I assume that this would allow me to say, okay I realize I can't apply, say, more than 150 pounds of anhydrous in the fall. But if I chose to apply it instead in the spring, or if I chose to side-dress, or use some other method that resulted in less leaching, that would be accommodated?

SENATOR SCHROCK: That could be accommodating.