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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 165

be some...you said that they're high or pretty well-paid employees. Will NPPD lose some employees if this company takes over?

SENATOR VRTISKA: No. They will...the same employees will be there. What they will do is retrain some of these employees and actually the only change will be in the management of the company. The same employees will be there. But what they need down there is somebody who understands...I think I indicated to you the biggest problem they've had is a turnover in managers. They bring in a new staff, all of the dynamics are changed and some of the, you know, the attitude of the employees degenerates when you have a change continually in the style of management. This company, because of their success in running other plants, I think has the ability to put things where they belong.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Okay. Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. That just...that clarifies it when I...as it relates to this bill. Thank you very much.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Okay. You're welcome.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Senator Preister, followed by Senators Cunningham, Brashear, and Jones.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Mr. President. Senator Landis, I'm sorry. I say that because I voted for your amendment. You have a good bill and a good amendment, but unfortunately you put it on a bad bill now, and I think that we're going down the wrong path with this bill. When the compact structure came to Nebraska years ago, there was very little debate about what this Legislature would do when it authorized that. Little discussion, little concern, not much attention paid, and now, years later, we're sitting facing a budget shortfall with potential liability of \$151 million so far, and at this rate those are taxpayer dollars that could well have to be paid. I don't want to see us in a similar situation and have this body make a decision on this bill that could put us in that same situation once again. I don't have the answers, but I do have questions. And I hope that before anyone votes for this bill, they have questions, that they may have or think of, answered;