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FLOOR DEBATE

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the history of public power in the state of Nebraska, because here we are essentially admitting the failure of public power management to properly manage an aspect of the electric utility industry. The problem that they're experiencing down there is not a new problem. It's been going on for a long, long time, more than a decade, and year after year after year the board and/or the management of NPPD has not been able to find managers to manage that plant in accordance with the standards and rules of the Nuclear Commission, Federal Nuclear Commission. And it seems like such a fundamental kind of problem. It's a management problem, and I do not understand why it is that public power has not been able to resolve a management problem for a decade. And I do not understand why NPPD cannot resolve that management problem but OPPD, which has a nuclear plant, I think is doing quite well. Senator Schrock, I guess I would ask you to update me with respect to how OPPD is managing its Calhoun plant. Are they meeting the Nuclear Commission's...the federal requirements and are they doing just fine? I assume...this language is broad, but I assume we're not...we are including OPPD. Do we want to include OPPD? Let's start with that question.

SENATOR SCHROCK: My understanding, this bill deals with nuclear power plants. If OPPD would like to take this route they could do that, but it's my understanding that they are not involved in this issue. They're not involved in this bill as a proponent or opponent. So, yes, this could affect them in the future should they decide to do the same thing, but we see no indications that they want to do that.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Has OPPD had any problems in recent years with the regulatory agency?

SENATOR SCHROCK: I think they have a better track record with the Nuclear Regulatory agency.

SENATOR BEUTLER: So they're a public power district. They can manage a nuclear plant. They don't have any problems. What's the problem with NPPD, Senator Schrock?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Senator Beutler, I don't know if its