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SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, I understand your perspective and where you're coming from. But when you consider the reactions of these folks, certainly it's universally understood that nobody would like to do something that's more expensive, that they...

SENATOR SCHROCK: Sure.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...wouldn't choose to do ordinarily. But I think the question is whether they were...whether the state imposed anything on them that it didn't have to do, and whether they're being treated fairly on the facts. When you describe the situation with Kearney County, for example, I don't know if you're describing a situation where Kearney County doesn't have to comply because factually they're not in the alluvial plain of the Republican Valley, and therefore there is a factual difference, and therefore nobody should be complaining that Kearney County got off well, because nobody should be choosing to do to them something that's unnecessary. So to the extent that that's the complaint, it seems to me that we ought not to be paying much attention to that complaint. The other complaint that could be made, I suppose, is that the state didn't have to do this, that the state made us do that. But I think you and I know from the history of this whole situation that that's not the case; that the state made the best deal it could, and it had to make a deal, and that these are the new conditions for irrigating in the Republican Valley. So if it's not the state's fault, and there's a clear, logical distinction between Kearney County and the lower counties, what is the basis for the state paying for compliance so that a private owner can do whatever they feel is necessary with the water?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Senator Beutler, first of all, I think the NRD is going to have to gather a lot of data on these issues. And one of the data is going to be...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR SCHROCK: ...how much water is being used? And meters are going to provide useful information there. And you know,