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been pressed and someone does wish to make a comment, I will certainly allow for that opportunity to comment. With that, Mr. President, I conclude my opening remarks.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Preister. You've heard the opening on AM3605. There are three lights on, Senator Preister. And those lights are Senator Louden, Senator Stuthman, and Senator Schrock. Senator Louden. He waives the opportunity to speak. Senator Stuthman.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I would like to ask Senator Preister a couple of questions. And my comments won't be very long.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Preister, would you yield?

SENATOR PREISTER: Yes, I will.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Senator Preister, when you make the comment, the statement "the public comment period," what do you feel, or what is the definition of public? How far out does that reach?

SENATOR PREISTER: Well, right now, Senator, the requirement is that an applicant has to submit their application 180 days prior to when they want to start operating. And this wouldn't extend that period, but it would allow for the 30-day comment period that the public could have their input.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Okay. When you're having the public comment and the public...and actually it would be public hearings, the thing that has always concerned me, that...I don't mind public comment if it is comment from individuals that are in the area, in the county, in the district, or people that realistically, you know, would be affected by it. The thing that really does concern me is that we've had situations where there's a hearing process. People come from other states in opposition. I think that's just ridiculous, in my opinion, that they'd travel that far to try to tell me or someone else, you know, how I should run my operation, when it has, realistically, no impact to somebody that lives 500 miles away. Would you agree with that portion of it? We've had other instances where there will be a