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March 10, 2005      LB 217

Senator, could I have a little conversation with Senator Jensen, please?

SENATOR CUDABACK:      Yes, you may.      Senator Schimek, would you respond?

SENATOR JANSSEN:      No, Senator Jensen.      Jensen.

SENATOR CUDABACK:      Senator Jensen?      Senator Jensen, would you respond?

SENATOR JENSEN:      I sure will.

SENATOR JANSSEN:      Senator Jensen, if my memory is correct, at one time you served on the Papio NRD.      Is that correct?

SENATOR JENSEN:      That is correct.

SENATOR JANSSEN:      Could you see any projects now that would have benefited that NRD joining with a community, say Omaha or Bennington, Irvington?

SENATOR JENSEN:      Yes, I do, and I do have my light on and I was going to address this.      And if we're going to do this, let's do them all or let's not do any.      I think this is not the proper approach whatsoever.      The Papio NRD has the same needs as any other NRD and, yes, they do do joint ventures and joint work with other NRDs, as well as other communities all the way from South Sioux City to the Plattsmouth entrance of...the Platte River entrance into the Missouri River.      And they have a great deal of issues that are coming before them, some of those they need funding for, and so I think this is wrong to take out...

SENATOR CUDABACK:      One minute.

SENATOR JENSEN:      ...and pick and choose which NRD should be used.      And so I say either take them all or don't take any.

SENATOR JANSSEN:      Well, if this...if I'm understanding the bill correctly, you could do this without a vote of the people.      Is that correct?      I believe that's correct.