TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

February 23, 2006 LB 975

commission, and they make a recommendation as to whether you've met all the criteria, whether it's a workable project, and they make their recommendation on sound science. But then they take it to the county board, board of commissioners or board of supervisors, and then they make...have to make the final decision, and that is where I have a real concern that can be very political. Would you find that to be true, Senator Raikes?

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR RAIKES: Certainly the supervisors are locally elected officials so they, should they desire to continue in office, need to be very cognizant of constituents that they serve, and in most instances the livestock producers are not going to be a majority of constituents.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Yes, that is very true. That is a concern that I have, is there realistically is no guarantee. I guess there would be no guarantee to anything when you really think about it. But I think we should...we should have something in place that when an individual spends a large amount of money or has to come up with that plan prior to the approval, even if his operation doesn't change, it changes only in protection for the environment because they are doing things that are mandated down as far as the Clean Water Act, and if they do that...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Stuthman.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you. Senator Schrock, followed by Senator Wehrbein and others.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Senator Chambers, I do want to get along with you. Life is easier when we agree on things and I'm willing to compromise on most issues, and I'm looking for a way out on this one and I hope that you will help me on this. But you understand that we have existing livestock producers out there who have to spend a large amount of money, and if they can expand a little bit it helps spread that cost out. And I have had several producers come to me and say, I don't know whether