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SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members, we have what we call the urban-ag luncheons. And some of us who are more urban senators have learned a lot, and I've learned a lot. And I thought I had been following a lot of the issues on the Republican Basin, learned a lot about how little impact in the Republican Basin there is from ground water irrigation and the significant impact that there is in surface water irrigation. And as Senator Baker just said, the answer in the Republican Basin is going to involve the purchase of surface water rights and change is going to be difficult. I think that long term we do need to look at some sort of a system that encourages people, even in basins that are not having the problems that the Republican Basin is having, at conservation and at some methodology. I would prefer to see it kept in the private sector of private sector individuals who have more limited availability and rights to be able to purchase rights from other places that there are...there is more water. Because I think that once it becomes us, the state, purchasing those rights, that individuals are going to expect it to continue, and I think that that's a particular problem. But there it is going...I think it's going to take a lot more thought and a lot more time because some of the things that Senator Smith said are exactly true. You cannot have a one size fits all. In the Republican Basin, you could practically shut down all of the ground water irrigation and not really impact the problem that we have right now. And the decimation that that would do to the economy of the basin is...I'm not willing to accept that kind of an answer to the compact issues that we have before us right now. So it needs to be a different kind of an approach than what we are talking about here. We need short-term solutions, medium-term solutions, and long-term solutions. And we've got to get the NRDs to be participating a lot more. And I will tell you that I am very impressed especially with Upper Republican NRD people that I have spoken to. These are the people that put a moratorium on and have done, I think, almost everything that they can do to address the problem they have which, right now, is totally caused by the lack of rainfall on the eastern slope and they have been very, very responsible. I think the NRDs have been very responsible