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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 1249

SENATOR LANDIS: Right. That is under current law and is totally unchanged by this bill, and the current law is that if they are a high-end user, they're not regulated by the state law.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Okay.

SENATOR LANDIS: If they're a big enough user, okay? That's existing law. If they're not a high-end user, and they have a contract with somebody, that contract is subject to the regulation of the PSC. Does the city direct that you go outside the town to, let's say an ethanol plant, where there isn't a (inaudible)? No.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Yeah.

SENATOR LANDIS: Why? It's not their pipe. It would be, on the other hand, the natural gas company who would, and by the way, wouldn't they like to go to a big user, an ethanol plant outside of town? Absolutely, and guess what? They work together to achieve that, existing law.

SENATOR BAKER: One minute.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: But this would not limit the ability of a community to expand and go out and...

SENATOR LANDIS: Absolutely not.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: This bill would not limit that at all.

SENATOR LANDIS: Absolutely not. In a city-owned system they have total control, and to the extent that it's a city served by a natural gas company, their power to annex, their power to extend their boundaries is set in other areas, and it's unchanged.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Another situation--this will not affect the prices of locking in, or making it higher prices, because they expand into an unserved area? That should have no difference,