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utilities, and for that matter, our public utilities, you get this for nothing. This is a value. You get to operate in this area without restriction, other than that which the PSC puts upon you, but you don't have any competitor, because it's exclusive. Now does that make sense to you, that there is a value associated with that? Wouldn't you love to get in on that action? Okay, we're going to give this to you, our benevolence, the state of Nebraska. You get to operate exclusively, with no competitor. Well, I want in on that deal. Now how on earth is it the best thing for our citizens, for our ratepayers, to not have competition? No one has gotten up in here and said, how is that the best for our ratepayers? If they have, I haven't heard. It's been a long day; I might have missed it. But it is amazing to me that we are giving something of value to a large corporation that isn't even domesticated here in Nebraska, and just saying here you go. That's amazing to me. The Chair of the committee offers an amendment that solves whatever the perceived problem is and does no more than that, and we rejected it? That's amazing. That is amazing. He gives us the guidance and we say, no, you don't know what you're talking about. We're going to go ahead and give this exclusive territory to this corporation so they can keep charging our citizens rates for gas service, and we're going to turn our back on our public utilities. It's baffling to me. I appreciate what Senator Landis is doing. I sense that he wants to resolve the issue, as everybody does, but show me that there's a problem. We haven't done that yet. What we have is one entity, one lobbyist representing two entities that said, this is what we want, and we're doing it. I can't believe this. I can't believe this. I know we've had a discussion, but I will tell you, I don't think we're listening. We talked about competition. We need competition. Well, Senator Pedersen and everybody else who said that we need competition, tell me how putting territories on our utilities encourages competition. It doesn't. I don't know how much the rates are going to increase, but just think about it logically. They have to. I think, frankly, it's good that MUD and Aquila are fighting it out, because you know who benefits? Our ratepayers, our constituents. We certainly don't benefit from it, because we have to keep fighting this out, but ultimately who benefits? The ratepayers. Take away the competition, take away that fighting, take away that