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LB 1249

happening anywhere else. The amendment responds to one key complaint, that the requirement for preapproval will delay projects and add tons of paperwork and everything else. This amendment makes it automatic. So in other words, if MUD decides it wants to go to Denny Byars'...Senator Byars' area in Beatrice, they can't just go start dropping pipe and then say, oh, Aquila is mad, let's go to the PSC now and try to figure out what to do. They can't do it. They can't do it. It's automatic. You just have to go. If they're going outside of the MUD board voting jurisdiction, they're going out to the Public Service Commission to get approval. It's automatic. It's not a slap on the hand at the end. It conclusively presumes that MUD serves any area where it used...where it has used eminent domain to acquire an existing system. Now, an example could be Elkhorn. If Omaha annexes Elkhorn, MUD gets that stuff, but that's not a change in law. That's just presuming it. I mean, we're saying that's the way things are going to remain. And finally, if no one complains about the filing, MUD or Aquila or anybody, within 15 business days of the date when the application is made public, the utility can proceed with the extension. That's important too. Okay? That means if MUD does something or Aquila does something, obviously the others need to be in tune to the business behavior. Here's where we're at. If there are any questions about this, it is simply changing Sections 57-1302 to 57-1307, and in my view bringing them into an accuracy that we need. With that, I would be happy to answer any questions, Mr. President. With that, I would ask for the adoption of AM...if there are no questions, the adoption of AM3144, the eventual adoption of the committee amendments, and the advancement of LB 1249 when these are advanced.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Friend.

SENATOR FRIEND: Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You've heard the opening on the Friend amendment, AM3144, to the committee amendments. There are several lights on. Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Cudaback, members of the