

transformers as it would in generators.

SENATOR VICKERS: Then your amendment does what? It...

SENATOR FENGER: It allows the public power districts of the state to escape the sealed bidding process in the case of the breakdown of large transformers in order to expedite the repair.

SENATOR VICKERS: You do not change the word "approval" on line 13 in the committee amendments? Your amendment doesn't change that language? Doesn't your language change the word "approval" to something else?

SENATOR FENGER: I have been informed it does, yes, sir.

SENATOR VICKERS: It changes it to "review", is that correct? Thank you, Senator Fenger. I rise to oppose this amendment to the committee amendments. In the first place, the inclusion of transformers I think is unnecessary because the language relating to the advertising it includes enough things that it seems to me that those could be included, first of all. Secondly, if it is a transformer that breaks down that is providing service, there is a section of the statutes that allows for emergency times for the bidding statutes to be waived, but I certainly disapprove of changing the word "approval" to review. We have got elected people elected by the people served by these public power districts and we are setting up a situation here where those people only will have the power to review whether or not the bidding statutes are followed and I think that is a dangerous precedent. I think those people need to be the ones that are responsible. Some of you may recall a few years ago we had some situations develop that in the end looked like it cost a lot of money to the ratepayers of this state but the elected boards of directors were able to say that we were not part of the decision so it wasn't our fault. Well, I think that is wrong. I think these people that are elected need to make the final decision and changing the word from "approve" to review certainly removes them from any oversight responsibility that I think they are elected to perform. I oppose the amendment to the committee