

postclosure care. Presently, there are no rules and regs on closure. We are asking the department to give some direction so these folks that we are trying to get them to close unlicensed dumps will have some idea of what is called...what the state wants them to do. We need to give them direction on the rules and regs. There are no rules and regs presently available on closure. The date, of July 1, '92, was not just plucked out of the air. We chose that date to give the department and the Environmental Control Council time to promulgate and develop these regs through the process as it currently works, and then get the rules and regs run by the AG's office for approval, and also give this body time to look at those rules and regs next year so we can say, yes, those are proper rules and regulations; that is what state policy should be towards closure and postclosure care of these landfills. The next date is December 15, 1993, that the cities shall prepare a plan, the cities shall do it, it is your responsibility, cities and municipalities, it is your responsibility to prepare a plan by December 15, 1993, that will bring the landfills previously exempted under the Whitney into compliance with licensure requirements, which should be developed by then, or provide for closure for such landfills. The closure procedures will be...have been developed by that time, and it shall have opportunity for this body and other people to review and see if they are realistic, reasonable, and responsible. The plan developed by the cities shall be approved by the department and shall address the threat of air, water and land pollution and shall include a date to bring the landfill into compliance or a date of closure. There is no date certain. Senator Schmit is right, there is no date certain on that. We have left that flexibility in there because of the awareness of the difference of all parts of the state, and the awareness of the extent to which some areas have already studied and which some areas have not studied. We don't want to force these communities into a decision that they have not sat down and logically thought out. We want them to take the time to do it right. We can't say that we have given them 20 years to do this because we haven't. Up until this point, we haven't sent a message to these folks that you are going to close your unlicensed landfills. So the argument that we have given them 20 years doesn't hold any water. Right now we are giving them X amount of time to get their landfills closed. My amendment will offer the flexibility on a site specific basis for them to sit down, look at their options, and responsibly plan with what they are going to do with their solid waste in the future, including closing of