

the date of this whole program from 1986, July 17, 1986, back to July 17, 1983, which will allow the tanks that were inadvertently left out of the coverage to be covered. I might add that I have a list of those that were left out on my desk here, if you'd like to see. They have been paying into the fund. Unfortunately, when the Legislature passed this bill originally that July 17, 1986 date was an arbitrary date. And we decided that because these marketers had been paying into the fund, but yet could not qualify to receive benefits under the fund for their particular release actions, we felt it was only fair that we included them as well. So we've added that section to this bill, or changed that date to allow them to have action...or access to the funds. The bill also allows the appraisal and other costs connected with the tangible real estate in Section 19 to be paid from the fund. It strikes the increase in the bill that allows those taxes to double, from three-tenths, to six-tenths, and from one-tenth to two-tenths, and I'll explain that in more detail later, if the actual cash fund falls below \$1 million. As this program is set up DEC...or the program has to be approved by the EPA. And the EPA has some concerns that Nebraska's fund is not at a level to cover the potential for increases in remedial action that might be necessary in Nebraska. And we are, basically, approved until we're not approved, is what the way I understand it, but there is some question of whether the approval of the fund could be rejected this year yet, if we don't make these changes. And so we are, basically, responding here to an EPA ruling that could affect the outcome of our fund. Under this amendment, which has the support of the petroleum marketers, the railroad association, the trucking association, some farm organizations, and the Nebraska Improvement Highway Association, if our fund, when someone...as these groups, as these marketers come to the fund and say we have a leak, we need access to the fund, and I would say that in a petroleum spill of gasoline you're looking at about \$90,000 for cleanup. The marketer comes to the fund and applies for the funds and receives funds. But if the fund should fall below \$1 million, that is the trigger mechanism by which the doubling of both the motor vehicle fuels, which will go from its current three-tenths of one cent level to six-tenths of one cent, and also petroleum other than motor vehicle fuel, diesel, special fuels, will go from one-tenth to two-tenths of one cent. That is the trigger mechanism. Now once the fund starts accumulating these new funds, that fund can go till it reaches \$3 million. At that point, that's the trigger mechanism to shut off the doubling of the funds, and they go back down to