

reply from Wyoming. When that proposal was made to the Wyoming legislators they jumped at it. They were very pleased to have that kind of an offer and they asked their engineer why they had not heard about it. The facts are that all too often those individuals who do not have to appropriate the money or be responsible for expenditures have a tendency to keep litigations such as this alive. I discussed with the Wyoming legislators the possibility that there not be any appropriations for this kind of litigation and I believe that we have about \$4 million here that has been ear tagged for the next biennium in pursuit of this kind of litigation. We are in the midst of a very severe budget crunch. There isn't any reason in the world for our Attorney General and the Attorney General of Wyoming to be fighting each other when the issue can be resolved, I am sure, by the two governors getting together or by the chairman of the Select Committee on Water and Senator Rod Johnson getting together with those two governors and with Mr. Jess and Mr. Fassett of Wyoming, I believe it can be resolved in an afternoon. One of the problems we have is that we appropriate these funds that we do not follow up enough and we are going to fight and argue and tussle on this floor the next two weeks trying to save a few dollars here and a few dollars there. And I believe it is time that we take a look at this sort of thing and I appreciate the fact that the Appropriations Committee responded to what was a perceived need, but I do not believe that we need that money and I think we need to get it out of there. If I do not get the amendment ready in the next few minutes...yes, what I would like to do would be to leave in the budget \$100,000 for each year for the necessary negotiations between the two states. If, in fact, we wind up in court we can always come in with a deficiency budget, but I don't believe the Governor is any different than I am personally or any other company. If you've got money in the bank you're more likely to be inclined not to settle it otherwise. What I'm talking about here is almost \$4 million I believe. I'd like to have the Appropriations Committee chairman comment on it. I would hope that Senator Rod Johnson would comment on it. I know there are going to be some arguments. They're going to say well if we take the money away, Wyoming is going to say you don't have to settle because Nebraska doesn't have any money to fight with. But we know that the Attorney General has come to this body in the past with deficit appropriations. So that's not a problem. If, in fact, they have to go to court, they get dragged into court, that's one thing, but we should not be saying we've got 3.5, \$4 million to go to court with and if you don't settle,