

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: That's correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So you would be asking them to give an additional amount of trackage for the same \$5 million?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: That's correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And if that additional trackage were included, that would increase the value...the salvage value of the total amount of trackage that would be obtained.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: That is correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So you would be getting even more for the \$5 million if that pays off than you're getting under the original amount that was being negotiated for?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: That is correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And you...you believe that the railroad is going to agree to give up more without asking for more money.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Well, perhaps with some degree of reluctance but I think it's possible to achieve that, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. I...members of the Legislature, I don't. What is being asked for here is the Legislature to buy a pig in a poke, if I might mix metaphors, because we're talking about the railroad. But let's say that the amount of track that was a part of the original negotiation would be four units. The additional track would be a fifth unit. They cannot get the railroad to negotiate further on the four units but somehow they're going to get them to negotiate on the five units for the same amount that the railroad does not want to negotiate for on to the...for the four units. I don't think it's a wise decision for the Legislature to make to obligate this money. I don't think that the short line, even if obtained, is going to be viable. I have talked to Senator Wickersham and he is convinced that shippers who use this amount, this portion of the track, would be willing to put enough cars on it to make it pay. I don't believe that. And I believe if there is an amount of money that has to be expended to rehabilitate this amount of track, the shippers are not going to produce that money, the state is going to do it. I don't the localities along the track are going to be able to do it. Some of those areas, to my