

Now let's say we have a little manufacturing unit out there that needs 100-acre feet, another commercial use. Do they need to get a permit? No, they don't need to get a permit. You know why they don't need to get a permit? Because they can't even get the water. They can't even get 100-acre feet of water, only golf courses can get 100-acre feet of water, and they can get it without a permit. So we're not even treating, we don't even have all the commercial uses in one little box. We have golf courses in one little box, and I'm suggesting to you that they shouldn't be in a little box all by themselves. What's so special about golf courses? And that's the importance of little boxes. What about agriculture, which box should it be in? It can't transfer water, can't transfer 100-acre feet under the Bernard-Stevens amendment, can't transfer 100-acre feet under current law, can't transfer 100-acre feet under any conditions, with or without a permit. Now don't we need to consider that little box before we go saying something like golf courses can transfer without a permit? I don't know what Senator Bernard-Stevens would like, but if he would like me to offer LB 79 with the committee amendments, in the event that this should fail, I would be glad to do so. If we need to try to expedite this process as much as we can on behalf of those who want the bill, we would be glad to do so. The committee attempted to do that. If you want an emergency clause on this bill, we can do that, too. But I don't think we ought to be in such a hurry that we do away with a person's right to have a hearing on the matter. One of the senators said, ah, this is no big deal. And, ah, this investor needs to have this done or he's going to be hurting. Well, there's hurt on two sides of things in some cases, as you know. Some of these little people out there in the countryside who are worried about this, maybe they're not right, maybe they shouldn't be worried. But what if they are? What if they are right? What if a couple of them lose their domestic wells? Well, I don't know what expense that's going to be to them. I don't know what their financial conditions are, but for a lot of people that could be big trouble. And it would have a significant impact on their property values in addition to the hardship of finding a water supply. So I don't think it is a little thing in terms of some people can be hurt big by little things. I think, to some extent, if you allow a permit system, it will be basically self-regulating. The smaller the amount of water gets, the less people will be concerned about it and the less likelihood of their being any kind of debate about it, and the permit process would be basically perfunctory. However, the value of the