The Natural Resources Committee of the House convened on March 5, 1979, at 12 p.m., in room 3 of the Capital Annex, with Chairman Shelden presiding and fifteen members present (Rep. Quilici, excused; and Reps. Johanton, Huennekens and Burnett absent). Chairman Shelden opened the meeting to a hearing on the following bills:

SENATE BILL 118

SENATOR HAROLD NELSON, Senate District 7, the bill's chief sponsor, introduced Jim Lahr and said he would explain the bill.

JIM LAHR, staff attorney representing the Code Commissioner, passed to the members copies of a summary of the changes made to the statutes by this bill. A copy of this is exhibit 1 and part of the minutes. He went through the changes outlined on the summary. He said he would be happy to answer any questions.

SENATE BILL 103

SENATOR STEVE BROWN, Senate District 15, the chief sponsor, said this bill was requested by the Department of State Lands and clarifies water and air quality requirements in the Hard Rock Mining Act.

CHARLOTTE K. EASTER, Environmental Information Center, said they support this bill.

STEVE DOUGHERTY, Northern Plains Resource Council, said they support this clarification language for the Hard Rock Mining Act.

During questions Rep. McBride asked if Senator Brown could foresee laws regarding ground water being addressed in this particular law. Senator Brown said yes--he didn't know how many years it would be.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

SENATE BILL 103 Rep. Fagg moved be concurred in. Motion carried unanimously with those present (absent same as above. Representative Fagg will carry the bill.

SENATE BILL 118 Rep. Harper moved be concurred in. Motion carried unanimously with those present. Rep. Cooney moved the bill be placed on the consent calendar and this motion carried unanimously with those present. Rep. Harper will carry the bill on the floor.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR H. SHELDEN, Chairman