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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Wilson DATE TYPED: 02/27/01 HB _____
 SHORT TITLE: “Public Water Supply System” Defined SB 519
 ANALYST: Belmares

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY01	FY02	FY01	FY02		
			See Fiscal Implications section below.		

Duplicates HB 679

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Environment (DOE)
 New Mexico Utility Operators Certification Act

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 519 amends the definition of “public water system” in the Utility Operators Certification Act (61-33-1 through 61-33-10 NMSA 1978). The definition is expanded to include suppliers of water for human consumption that use constructed conveyances that are not pipes.

Significant Issues

Before the 1996 amendments, the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) defined “public water system” as a system that provided piped water for human consumption. The 1996 amendments to the SDWA expanded the definition of “public water supply” to include systems providing water for human consumption that deliver this water by “constructed conveyances” such as irrigation canals.

The Department of Environment asserts the following: (1) amendment to the New Mexico Utility Operators Certification Act contained in the bill is necessary to track the changes in the federal act; (2) the definition of “public water supply” is central to delineating the scope of many SDWA requirements; and, (3) the change in definition of “public water supply” will also protect the federal grant “set-aside” of approximately \$1,500.0, and allow the Department of Environment retain its primary of the Safe Drinking Water Act program.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The Department of Environment asserts the change in definition of “public water supply” will also protect the federal grant “set-aside” of approximately \$1,500.0. This federal funding is the state “set-aside” used to develop technical and managerial capacity in local water systems.

DUPLICATION

Senate Bill 519 duplicates House Bill 679.

EB/njw:ar