

NOTE: As provided in LFC policy, this report is intended only for use by the standing finance committees of the legislature. The Legislative Finance Committee does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of the information in this report when used for other purposes.

The most recent FIR version (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) is available on the Legislative Website. The Adobe PDF version includes all attachments, whereas the HTML version does not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Gonzales DATE TYPED: 02/19/03 HB 694

SHORT TITLE: Environmental Sample Testing & Processing SB _____

ANALYST: Valenzuela

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
	\$300.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act for the Department of Environment, Resource Conservation and Recovery Program, DOE Oversight Bureau.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Responses Received From
Department of Environment (NMED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 694 appropriates \$300.0 from the general fund to U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Oversight Bureau of the Department of Environment for the purpose of conducting sample testing of the environment and to expand oversight activities for DOE facilities within New Mexico.

Significant Issues

The DOE Oversight Bureau historically has never received general fund for its operations. In fact, the bureau is funded by a federal grant directly from DOE, per an agreement-in-principle between the state and DOE. The agreement provides for state oversight of environmental impacts at four DOE facilities within New Mexico: Sandia National Laboratories and the Inhalation Toxicology Research Institute in Albuquerque, Los Alamos National Laboratory and the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

House Bill 694 -- Page 2

The bureau has a budget of approximately \$1.7 million, funding entirely by federal funds, which has stayed relatively constant of the past few years. The concern of the bureau is that uncertainty at the national level could significantly reduce federal appropriations to the DOE, which in turn would decrease funding for the bureau.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$300.0 contained in this bill is a Recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2004 shall revert to the general fund.

MFV/njw:yr