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HOUSE BILL 94

**53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017**

INTRODUCED BY

David M. Gallegos and Carlos R. Cisneros

ENDORSED BY THE LAND GRANT COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO ACEQUIAS AND COMMUNITY DITCHES; PROVIDING POWERS TO  
THE ACEQUIA COMMISSION; REQUIRING A REPORT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 73-2-66 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993,  
Chapter 293, Section 2) is amended to read:

"73-2-66. POWERS AND DUTIES.--

A. The acequia commission, through its staff or  
contract agents, may apply for and accept any public or private  
grants, gifts or donations for the benefit of the acequia  
commission or acequias or community ditches in general or  
particular.

B. The acequia commission, through its staff or  
contract agents, may:

(1) assist acequias or community ditches in

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1 all areas of acequia or community ditch economic development,  
2 infrastructure development and legislative initiatives,  
3 including capital outlay proposals;

4 (2) establish cooperative purchasing  
5 capabilities for acequias or community ditches;

6 (3) perform special studies and undertake  
7 surveys of interest for acequias or community ditches and  
8 report the findings;

9 (4) serve as fiscal agent and administrator  
10 for federal and state grants-in-aid and other funding for an  
11 acequia or a community ditch when necessary;

12 (5) facilitate or enter into agreements with  
13 state and federal agencies on behalf of acequias or community  
14 ditches;

15 (6) enter into contracts to carry out its  
16 duties; and

17 (7) provide other assistance to assist  
18 acequias or community ditches.

19 C. The acequia commission shall:

20 [~~A.~~] (1) provide advice and assist the  
21 governor, legislature, office of the state engineer and  
22 interstate stream commission and the United States army corps  
23 of engineers in establishing acequia and community ditch  
24 rehabilitation priorities and in other acequia and community  
25 ditch matters;

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1                    [B-] (2) serve as a facilitator for  
2 communication between acequia and community ditch associations  
3 and state and federal agencies; and

4                    [G-] (3) review and comment on any plan or  
5 legislation affecting acequias or community ditches to the  
6 governor, the legislature, the ~~[secretary]~~ director of the New  
7 Mexico department of agriculture and the interstate stream  
8 commission."

9                    SECTION 2. [NEW MATERIAL] REPORT TO GOVERNOR AND  
10 LEGISLATURE.--The acequia commission shall report to the  
11 governor and the legislature by December 1 of each year on the  
12 state of acequias and community ditches in New Mexico and the  
13 activities of the acequia commission for that year.

14                    SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the  
15 provisions of this act is July 1, 2017.