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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Vigil DATE TYPED: 02/14/01 HB 542
 SHORT TITLE: San Miguel Hydrological Assessment of Water SB _____
 ANALYST: Gilbert

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY01	FY02	FY01	FY02		
	\$ 150.0			Non-Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to Appropriations in House Bill 201, House Bill 116, Senate Bill 91 and Senate Bill 79

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files
 CHE Files - *Special Funding Requests Submitted by NMSU*
 New Mexico Office of the State Engineer

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 542 appropriates \$150.0 to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University (NMSU) to conduct a hydrological assessment of ground water in San Miguel County.

Significant Issues

The appropriation in this bill would be administered/distributed by NMSU and the New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA) to the Tierra y Montes soil and water conservation district to conduct a hydrological assessment of the ground water in San Miguel county.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$150.0 contained in this bill is a non-recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY02 shall revert to the general fund.

CONFLICT/DUPLICATION/COMPANIONSHIP/RELATIONSHIP

House Bill 542 relates to House Bill 201, Senate Bill 79, Senate Bill 91, and House Bill 116. These bills all appropriate funds to soil and water conservation districts and are administered/distributed by NMSU and the NMDA.

Senate Bill 91 appropriates \$500.0 to New Mexico State University (NMSU) to provide cost-sharing for soil and water conservation district water conservation projects.

Senate Bill 79 appropriates \$1.54 million from the general fund to the Board of Regents of NMSU for expenditure in FY02 for water research and water conservation district water projects.

House Bill 201 appropriates \$1.54 million from the general fund to the Board of Regents of NMSU for expenditure in FY02 for water research and water conservation district water projects.

House Bill 116 appropriates \$500.0 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of NMSU for allocation to New Mexico's soil and water conservation districts to permit cost-sharing for water conservation projects.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The following is provided for information only. It is not intended as a commentary on the merits of the program/project:

This program was not included in NMSU's budget request to the NMSU Board of Regents, and thus was not submitted by NMSU to the Commission on Higher Education (CHE) for review. The CHE did not recommend funding this program expansion.

According to the NMDA, soil and water conservation districts in New Mexico are poised to implement a number of important water conservation projects. More than \$2.5 million worth of projects have been outlined by soil and water conservation districts throughout the state. Some of these projects have partial funding from federal or private sources, but must obtain matching funds.

LG/ar