

slaughter and then to market is excessive. This will stimulate rural economic development.

The New Mexico Livestock Board notes that meat products sold to the general public must be inspected by a federal or state meat inspector. State laws, rules and regulations currently allow only for permanent structures and not mobile slaughter units to be used for these activities. If this legislation is approved, an additional meat inspector would be needed to cover the slaughter duty at the mobile slaughter unit. The unit would still have to meet the requirements for any slaughter facility.

The Livestock Board also notes that permanently assigning a meat inspector to the mobile unit would involve an additional \$42 thousand in recurring costs if the program is ultimately implemented.

The Environment Department reports that liquid and solid wastes resulting from a mobile livestock slaughter unit will need to be disposed of in accordance with applicable state and federal statutes and regulations including the New Mexico Water Quality Act and Water Quality Control Commission Regulations, the New Mexico Solid Waste Act and the federal Clean Water Act.

The Environment Department also notes that slaughter wastes include solid and liquid wastes such as rendered blood as well as carcasses that require disposal or may be sold as animal by-products. The feasibility study should take into consideration the disposal of liquid and solid wastes including wash-down water from the mobile livestock slaughter unit. Slaughter wastes, not sold as by-products are required to be disposed of at a permitted facility.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

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OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The Livestock Board recommends that language be inserted to include a representative of the Livestock Board Meat Inspection Division and the Environment Department to ensure that all applicable regulations are considered in the feasibility study.

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