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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Stefanics ORIGINAL DATE 3/07/19  
 LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE Mt. Chalchihuitl Property Remediation SM 110

ANALYST Hanika-Ortiz

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY19	FY20	FY21	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>		NFI	NFI			

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Memorial

Senate Memorial 110 requests the Department of Environment (NMED) and Santa Fe County enter into a formal partnership to study and plan for remediation of the Mt. Chalchihuitl property.

SM110 provides the following:

- the tricultural heritage of the Cerrillos hills reflects five centuries of intertwined history among Native Americans, Hispanics and Anglos, making the Cerrillos hills one of New Mexico's most important historic and prehistoric cultural landscapes;
- Mt. Chalchihuitl, included in the New Mexico register of cultural properties, is the largest and most significant prehistoric turquoise mine in North America, dating from around 1000 A.D., with turquoise artifacts found from the site at Chaco canyon and in Mexico, and the turquoise mine is the most significant historical feature in the Cerrillos hills;
- on June 12, 2001, the board of county commissioners of Santa Fe county approved the acquisition of the Mt. Chalchihuitl property to protect this significant cultural site;
- Santa Fe county has long completed the due diligence necessary to acquire this real property, and the property requires remediation of legacy environmental issues stemming from the tailings of a long-closed mine, the cash entry, east of the Mt. Chalchihuitl site;
- remediation is needed to stem contamination that has spread down through an adjacent property, Cerrillos gravel products, a gravel mine that has suspended its operations;
- Santa Fe county wants to acquire the Cerrillos gravel products property for remediation;

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- further sampling is needed to determine if the contaminants have reached the Cerrillos hills state park, which is Santa Fe county open space, the water table and beyond;
- NMED's ground water quality bureau oversees the voluntary remediation program;
- under the program, a prospective owner of a contaminated site, such as Santa Fe county, may be released from certain environmental liabilities by remediating the site after acquisition in accordance with a voluntary remediation agreement with NMED; and
- both Santa Fe county and NMED have spent considerable time and money in planning for a remediation plan, and negotiations are ongoing with the adjacent land owner.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

No fiscal impact to transmit this request to the NMED and Santa Fe county commissioners.

### **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

SM110 resolves that NMED and Santa Fe county be asked to enter into a formal partnership to study and plan for remediation of the Mt. Chalchihuitl property and that NMED be requested to release Santa Fe county from certain environmental liabilities from remediating the site.

### **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

SM110 requests the memorial be transmitted to the board of county commissioners of Santa Fe county and the NMED secretary.

AHO/sb/al